

# the chronicle



**Albion's Dave thanks Manor's medical marvels**  
– Page 4



**Pies mean prizes for butchers**  
– Page 5



**Walsall so proud of our boys**  
– Page 10

## Skates on for an early Christmas thrill

AN OUTDOOR ice rink helped to bring Christmas alive for more than 1,000 revellers who flocked to Pelsall to soak up the festive spirit.

The attraction formed the centrepiece of seasonal celebrations in the village, which was transformed into a winter wonderland over the weekend. More than 40 stalls

selling a range of crafts, arts and cakes were also set up off High Street, while street entertainers also performed.

The ice rink was kept in place for the whole of the weekend.

The revamped celebrations were organised through the Pelsall Pride Partnership. The village changed

from its more traditional Victorian theme to generate more interest in the Christmas celebrations.

Walsall's Mayor, Pelsall ward's Councillor Garry Perry said: "It has been the best we have had in many years. The ice rink proved a success."

"It has been a very popular attraction and one I am sure we will

look to repeat again because we are all thrilled to bits with how it went."

An ice rink will also be installed in Walsall town centre on December 17 as part of the town's festive celebrations. It will be put outside the New Art Gallery in Gallery Square.

A tree has also been put up close to The Crossing at St Paul's.

# FURY AS JOBS PUT IN DOUBT BY PLAN FLAW

COUNCIL chiefs in Walsall face a renewed planning battle after it emerged a controversial inquiry into plans to flatten Brownhills Business Park will have to be heard all over again. More than 100 jobs have once more been plunged into doubt there.

Plans to flatten the business park and build 89 homes on the land will have to go back before the Government inspector after it came to light there had been a flaw in the decision process.

Council leader Mike Bird said: "It is annoying as we fought the battle

[walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk)

and thought we had won the war but we have got to fight the battle again.

"We will put forward the same defence as before as we want to protect employment land. At this site there are people who can walk to work and have been there 20 odd years. Here we have a piece of employment land that is being occupied and is fully let."

Earlier this year it had seemed the plans had been scrapped. Walsall Council had initially rejected the plan for 89 homes and said the site should be protected as employment land.

A planning inspector then reversed the decision. Council bosses launched a High Court battle, but it was scrapped after it emerged there had been flaws in the decision process.

Applicant Ashtenne Industrial Fund LP has launched a fresh appeal against the original refusal, meaning their whole procedure will go back to square one.

Business owners at the park today said they could not afford the £1 million relocation costs.

Mike Wilcox, boss of Wilcox Refinishers, said: "We don't know which way the dice will fall so just have to keep going. Hopefully it will go in our favour."

"There are over 100 people employed on the site. Despite the recession we have had a tremendous year in business."

## Town's warm welcome as bakery plans growth

The creation of 70 jobs at a new bakery factory in Walsall has today been welcomed by council chiefs.

Perfection Foods Ltd is opening a new factory at its base at Walsall Enterprise Park, expected to open in February or March next year.

Council leader Mike Bird said it was "very welcome news for the town" at a time when many other bakeries are struggling.

"Any business expansion like

this that creates jobs is welcomed and supported by us," he said.

"There have been some bakeries that have suffered lately and it is hoped some workers who may have lost their jobs could get new ones."

Family-run firm Perfection Foods Ltd is set to almost triple its workforce with the opening of the new factory.

It employs 40 staff at Wednesday, Leicester and Walsall



The Christmas ice rink at High Street, Pelsall

## Peace talks just the ticket in car park penalties row

POSITIVE steps have been taken to resolve the ongoing parking issue at one of Walsall's busiest shopping parks, council bosses said today.

Council leader Mike Bird called talks with the bosses of Crown Wharf Shopping Park, off Wolverhampton Street. It comes after dozens of drivers hit out after being given £80 charges despite paying to park.

### Challenged

Shopping park bosses said the situation had occurred because people had failed to correctly enter their full registration numbers.

Thirty new signs warning people to put in their full numbers have been put up within the last week, which include a dedicated number for people to call.

Council leader Mike Bird said: "It was a very positive meeting and it is encouraging to know that they are taking some action to try to make it clearer for people."

"What drivers need to be aware of is that they have to put in their full registration numbers, including letters and numbers."

"In some other towns and cities, such as Lichfield, you only need to put in the letters. But here, the full number must be put in."

"Hopefully the signs will make this clearer."

A number of drivers have challenged £80 charges sent to them later in the post and shopping park bosses have always insisted people do not need to pay the charge if it can be proved they had paid.

John Albany Ward, of Monroe K Asset Management, which looks after the site on behalf of landowners British Land, said: "We are taking steps to try to continually improve the situation there."

Diane Coughlan, Labour councillor for Willenhall South, who has been working on behalf of people hit with fines, said: "Anything that makes this situation better for the shoppers is good and positive news."

## Caldmore chameleon

A MUSICIAN from Walsall has signed to sing with Boy George to record a limited edition EP for charity.

Matthew Jones is looking forward to working with the 1980s star, who lived for a short time in Goodall Street, Caldmore, Walsall, when he was plain George O'Dowd, to produce the track in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Entrepreneur Matthew is now looking to form a choir to back the 50-year-old Culture Club singer and full orchestra during the live recording at stately Ingestre Hall, near Stafford.

### Rehearsals

Participants of all abilities are invited to register but must be 16 or over by January 25 next year.

The new release will celebrate Italian ballads of the 1960s including hits from Dusty Springfield and Shirley Bassey. For more information or to apply, call Jenny Sloan at Matthew Jones Music Ltd on 0121 632 2330 or 07941 918688.

Rehearsals commence in January in Erdington, Birmingham, where full training will be provided.



Matthew Jones



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## Five-fold rise in profits at Chamberlin

WALSALL engineering success story Chamberlin has unveiled a staggering 500 per cent rise in profits as it wins new work at home and abroad.

A major turbocharger castings contract is now under way at the Chamberlin & Hill foundry in Chuckery Road, where the workforce has now grown to 140.

And at Cannock the group's Exidor emergency exit manufacturing firm had become "a really strong business", said chief executive Tim Hair. The success comes after Chamberlin's takeover last year of collapsed Wednesday company Jebroon which was merged into Exidor. The move rescued the jobs of 25 workers at Cannock.

### Successful

Combined with soaring workloads at the group's Scunthorpe and Leicester foundries, Chamberlin saw its underlying pre-tax profit rocket to £797,000 in the six months to September 30, up from £163,000 a year before.

Sales figures were up 25 per cent to £23 million.

Mr Hair said production was now above pre-recession levels in the wake of a successful recovery plan.

"Our sales improvement has not just been about existing customers recovering after the recession; we are also winning a good element of new business."

## Candlelight magic at Rotary concert

FOR the seventh year, the Rotary Club of Willenhall are presenting a Christmas Celebration by Candlelight.

The concert at the Parish Church of St Giles, Walsall Street, Willenhall, WV13 2ER is next Wednesday, December 14, at 7pm. It features the Children's Singing Club from St Giles Primary School and a popular local choir, the Short Heath Singers.

Willenhall Rotary Club president Simon Sims said: "The annual Christmas Celebration at our parish church has become one of the highlights in our club calendar and this year will be no exception, bringing together our community at this special time of the year."

Tickets are £3 which includes a programme and light refreshments.

There is ample free parking on the public car park in Walsall Street, 100 yards from the entrance to the church.

## Mercy on £5,000 school rampage raider

A BURGLAR who went on a rampage at a school in Bloxwich causing more than £5,000 worth of damage, has avoided an immediate jail sentence.

Shane Field broke into Frank F Harrison Engineering College on October 19 and tried to flee with computer equipment.

The 20-year-old was caught along with Brian Maughan, now

jailed, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard last week.

Geoffrey Dann, prosecuting, said they stacked up three computer monitors and a hard drive unit outside, and two computer mice were in Field's pockets.

Police arrived after the alarms activated, and caught the pair trying to scale a fence.

The total value of the haul

was £1,300, and the cost of the damage was more than £5,000.

Hina Paw, defending, said: "This offence was committed after he consumed a lot of alcohol with the co-defendant."

### Troubled

He had a troubled upbringing and left school without formal qualifications. He wants to get a

job and get on with his life."

Field, of Rutherford Road, Beechdale, was handed a 14-week prison sentence, suspended for two years, with a 12-month supervision order.

He will undergo a six-month alcohol treatment programme and 180 hours unpaid work.

In October, Maughan, 20, of Bentley, was jailed for 16 weeks.



Raider Shane Field

## Sport on way back to toxic alert site

WALSALL playing fields where sports have been banned for eight years are set to be brought back into use within months as part of a £400,000 project.

Ball games have been banned at the Broadway West playing fields since 2003, when dangerous metals were discovered in soil samples, but Walsall Council is now looking to invest thousands of pounds, which includes a new layer of topsoil, to allow sports, including cricket and football, to return. It follows a series of tests over the last 18 months.

Stopping games on health and safety grounds had been criticised by the National Obesity Forum.

Leisure chief Councillor Anthony Harris said: "To get kids and families enjoying the facility will be superb, it is a lovely open space."

"It is a big investment but is one to support sport and keeping fit. It is a long-term investment."

### Windfall

Council leader Mike Bird said the intention was to allow ball games from spring. It will cost about £400,000 from the capital programme budget but needs to be agreed by the cabinet next month.

Councillor Bird said: "It is about time we had that large amount of open land brought back into use."

Sports were banned at the site in 2003 amid fears that the cost of decontaminating it and refurbishing a nearby pavilion could cost up to £1 million.

The fields were just months after receiving a windfall of £150,000 to develop pitches and facilities.

At least 10 sports clubs, including Walsall Star Cricket Club and Bescot Swifts Junior Football Club, had to be found alternative venues by the council.

## Free parking axed in 2012

FREE parking will be scrapped on three car parks in Walsall by the end of January.

The £30 monthly permits or £3 daily fee are being introduced around Town Wharf and Premier business parks. Legal orders are being advertised, with council bosses anticipating they will come into operation within two months.

They are being introduced following complaints about shoppers and town centre workers clogging up the three car parks in the Frederick Street, Charles Street and Brook Street.

## Health trust date

DUDLEY and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust's board meeting was on Wednesday, November 30, and not on December 7 as stated incorrectly in last week's Chronicle. The next trust board meeting is from 5-7pm on Wednesday, January 25, at The Savoy Centre, Northfield Road, Netherton, Dudley, DY2 9ES.

# Hero Pc on march as shooting scars heal

FIVE years after being shot and left for dead while on duty, policeman Geoff King proved he was on the road to recovery by speed marching 26 miles through the streets of central London in aid of wounded troops and their families.

The 38-year-old former Royal Marine, now serving at Bloxwich police station, told of his pride in completing the gruelling marathon one day after the sixth anniversary of his terrifying brush with death.

The West Midlands Police constable said: "I was shot on a Saturday morning and, by coincidence, the march was also on a Saturday morning."

"It was fitting that I was marching around London raising money for Marines who had been shot and wounded while serving on the frontline almost five years to the day after being left for dead and bleeding in a street in Wolverhampton."

"That was the main reason I took part and the coincidence in the dates made it even more emotional for me."

"The incident during which I was shot was on my mind throughout the march. I knew that it would take place around the anniversary of my shooting when I volunteered to take part although I did not know there would be such symmetry between the two dates."

On November 11, 2006, gangster Marcus Bailey was just 2ft away from Pc King when he fired three times at the unarmed officer who had chased him across Penn Road, Wolverhampton.

The officer was hit twice in the upper body and shoulder and lost six and a half pints of blood. Doctors said he was within two minutes of dying.

### Admiral

Bailey, aged 25, was later found hiding in a bin and ordered to serve at least 15 years after being jailed for life for attempted murder.

Pc King works in the intelligence department at Bloxwich because he is unable to perform any duties that might involve confronting an offender.

He said: "I am still suffering post traumatic stress and am restricted in the role I can play within the police. That is likely to remain the case."

"Physically I have made a 99 per cent recovery although I still suffer numbness in my left arm. I am more or less back to normal but there have still been blips."

"Those normally happened around the date of the shooting but the anniversary didn't have a profound effect this year."

"I am sure that this was because of my involvement in the march. It was a really proud moment when I completed it. I was delighted that something so worthwhile could have come from something so bad. I wanted to do everything I could to help others to cope with similar experiences."

"Being shot myself helped me to empathise with the plight of wounded troops. I can understand not only the physical impact but also the possible mental side effects."

Pc King and Pc Karl Ansell were in-

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giting a rise in car crime when gunned down. The wounded officer said of the moment Bailey shot him: "He raised his right arm. I had not even seen the gun at first. He pointed it straight at my head and pulled the trigger."

Amazingly, the bullet missed him. "When the gun went off - I had closed my eyes - I opened them again. I could see the look of disappointment on his face. I think he could not believe he had missed."

He was then hit by the two shots and recalled: "I remember seeing blood spurting out from my chest and shouted on the radio that I had been shot."

Pc King, of Rugeley, joined West Midlands Police in 1999 after serving for nine years with the Royal Marines. He belongs to Commando 999 whose members have served with both that military unit and the emergency services.

He took part in the Speedmarch marathon with around 100 comrades, and was part of the 40-strong hard core who completed the full distance to raise more than £65,000 for the Royal Marine Association.

They passed a host of world famous landmarks including Buckingham Palace, Regent Street, Big Ben and The Mall while also making a brief appearance at Downing Street, where they were greeted by Home Secretary Theresa May and head of the Royal Navy, Admiral Mark Stanhope.

The march took four hours 45 minutes including the quarter-hour stop in Downing Street.

Pc King, whose training for the event had been hampered by shin splints, reveals: "It was a tough challenge but very rewarding."

"We saw some fantastic sights and had a brilliant reaction from the public. I really began to feel it after 22 miles but was determined to finish. There was no way I was going to fail."

Pc King personally raised more than £800, with more money still coming in.

He says: "I would like to thank all my friends and family for their tremendous support."

"I cannot wait until next year when we will do it all again."

Donations can still be made to Speedmarch through www.bmycharity.com/geoffking



Pc King a year before the shooting which left him fighting for his life



Pc King receives a Local Hero award in 2007 with Wolves player Gary Breen and his colleague Pc Karl Ansell

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Head girl and boy Chloe Hale and Andy Cooke with Eva Gadsby, 85

## Treats for elderly at school

MORE than 60 pensioners were given a festive treat when they attended a Christmas party at a Walsall secondary school.

Carols filled the hall at Blue Coat C of E Comprehensive School, in Birmingham Street, while pensioners enjoyed a game of bingo and platters of party food.

### Donated

It was organised by sixth form pupils alongside staff, while the school band, choir and dance group were among the performers. Invitations were sent out to residents

and care homes in the area as the school held its 32nd annual senior citizens' Christmas party.

Grandmother Eva Gadsby, aged 85, of Great Barr, said: "I've really enjoyed it and the Blue Coat pupils have really looked after us."

Eva worked as a nurse in the latter years of the Second World War.

Sixth formers held a series of challenges throughout the year to raise cash to host the party, while Tesco and Morrisons donated food.



Marjorie Dawes, 61, Ann Walton, 69 and Elsie Broughton, 77

## Christmas busy time for singers in village

THIS Christmas, Pelsall Ladies Choir will be giving two charity concerts.

The first is in Walsall Town Hall this Saturday, December 10, at 7.30pm, in aid of the Mayor's Charities.

The choir will be joined by the children of Pelsall Primary Partnership, the three village primary schools, and the Symphonic Wind Band from Forest Arts, Walsall.

Tickets cost £3, and under-12s go free, available Kind Thoughts, in Pelsall High Street, from the Mayor's Office, or on the door. Parking for patrons is free at Hatherton Street car park.

The second charity concert will be in aid of the Soldiers, Sailors, Air Force Families Association in St. Michael's Church, Hall Lane, Pelsall, at 7.30pm next Friday, December 16. Tickets cost £5, including light refreshments, available from Kind Thoughts, Pelsall High Street, or on the door.

### Criterion

The choir, which was formed on 1963, has been entertaining and fundraising for many local and national charities during the past 48 years.

They will also be giving a Christmas Concert at Springhead Methodist Church, Wednesbury, next Monday, December 12, entertaining at the Christmas Fair at St Francis of Assisi School, singing for the residents of Old Vicarage Close, Pelsall, and, finally, taking part in a Carol Service at St. Michael's Church on December 18.

The choir is open to all women, irrespective of colour, race or creed. The only criterion is a desire to sing.

Rehearsals take place in St Michael's School hall, Maple Road, Pelsall, every Monday during term time from 7.9pm. For details contact June Davenport on 01922 449243 or Margaret Merrick on 01922 453493.

## Support our festivities, chief urges

TOWNSFOLK in Brownhills are being urged to support Christmas events in the town.

The town's local committee chairman Doug Birch said activities include an exhibition of colourful trees at the Methodist church in Silver Street.

The Mayor of Walsall, Councillor Garry Perry and Aldridge-Brownhills MP Richard Shepherd will be guests at the lights switch-on event today (Thursday) at 7.30pm.

Illuminated trees sponsored by community bodies and traders will be on show to the public tomorrow and on Saturday.

The festival will feature a Christmas market on Saturday from 9am to 10pm.

The tree festival was re-instated last year by popular demand after a two-year break. Following talks with community groups, including the local committee, it was revived and last year raised £2,400 for charities.

There will be another tree festival at St John's Methodist Church, in Victoria Avenue, Bloxwich, on Sunday. A parade service begins at 10am.

## Annual carols at St Peter's Church

ST PETER'S Church, in Stafford Street, Walsall, hosts its annual carol service on Sunday, December 18.

After the service, which begins at 6pm, there will be refreshments including mince pies and a raffle.

St Peter's has just celebrated its 170th year, having been consecrated in 1841.

Attending this event will give everyone a chance to see the beautiful interior of the church including its notable stained glass windows.

More information about St Peter's can be found on the [www.churches.hchfield.org.uk/walsall/stpeter](http://www.churches.hchfield.org.uk/walsall/stpeter) website.

The church has disabled access, toilet facilities, and induction loop for the benefit of hearing aid users.

## You're hired, lucky 13 told

THIRTEEN new apprentices have started work at Walsall Council in the young people's support department. Council bosses said they wanted to put young people at the heart of the council's business.

Head of support services Alan Michell said: "All of the opportunities will be provided in a very supportive environment to ensure that young people, at the end of their apprenticeship, can put a firm foot on the employment ladder or start a

## The balloon goes up

WALSALL children can meet Holly Christmas and send a letter to Santa on a balloon for £1 and help Sainsbury's raise cash for Midlands Air Ambulance this Saturday. The balloon that travels the farthest wins a trip round the Midlands Air Base. Cards are on sale at the Reedswood store.

further training course in their chosen profession.

"We are also committed to ensure some of our vulnerable groups have the opportunity to get onto the scheme, including young people who are in the care of the local authority."

The apprenticeship programme will see young people receive personal support and management to achieve their NVQ2 in Youth Work and Active Involvement.

John Birchill (left) and his son Josh Dudley receive £1,500 towards the Josh Tadworth Appeal from Kevin O'Reilly, operations director at Securefast



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WALSALL children can meet Holly Christmas and send a letter to Santa on a balloon for £1 and help Sainsbury's raise cash for Midlands Air Ambulance this Saturday. The balloon that travels the farthest wins a trip round the Midlands Air Base. Cards are on sale at the Reedswood store.

further training course in their chosen profession.

"We are also committed to ensure some of our vulnerable groups have the opportunity to get onto the scheme, including young people who are in the care of the local authority."

The apprenticeship programme will see young people receive personal support and management to achieve their NVQ2 in Youth Work and Active Involvement.

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## Albion's Dave thanks Manor's medics

CANCER patient Dave Matthews, kitman at West Bromwich Albion, has expressed his gratitude to the doctors and nurses at Walsall Manor Hospital for putting him on the road to recovery. By David Lumb

The 50-year club servant has spoken of his delight after getting the all-clear, but hinted he may soon call time on his career.

The father of two, who has been battling Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma since May, has responded to treatment and is now in remission. Mr Matthews previously said he

wanted to get to work as soon as possible, but now the 66-year-old says he would not rule out taking a lesser role.

"I won't be back at work until some time in the new year," he said.

### Unnecessary

"It may be the case I go in for one or two days and ease my way back in. I'd like to go back but, having been away for so long, I don't know how I will feel.

"I'm 66, so I might just take a back seat or take on just an advisory role. I can't go on

forever, but I'm not ruling anything out."

Mr Matthews, who lives in Halesowen, had seven chemotherapy sessions, then Manor Hospital staff told him there had been no activity from the cancer cells and the eighth session was now unnecessary.

"It was totally unexpected," said Mr Matthews. "I was prepared for the eighth session and, when they said they had decided not to give it to me, I thought there was something else wrong. Then when I found out the good news it was a great relief."



West Brom kitman Dave Matthews recovering at home

## Lead taken from roof of youth theatre

THIEVES have stripped lead from the roof of a 50-year-old charity-run youth theatre in Walsall.

Aldridge Youth Theatre has become the latest victim of metal theft in the borough, sparking a fresh appeal for people to sign a petition for new measures to tackle it.

Bosses at the theatre group were today trying to work out how to pay to replace the metal.

Around 20 metres of lead has been stripped from the roof of the group's base in Noddy Park Road, Aldridge.

Tom Cryan, chairman of Aldridge Youth Theatre, said: "This is a real blow. We are a charity and in effect, they have stolen the lead from the roof of a children's charity."

"We are not sure at the moment but this is likely to cost us hundreds of pounds to repair."

The group is currently rehearsing for its Christmas pantomime to be staged in January.

### Entertain

Mr Cryan added: "We are going to have to sell as many tickets as possible to help pay for this."

Police are now investigating the theft, believed to have happened over the weekend of November 26-27.

Councillor Tom Ansell, representative for Aldridge, said: "It is sad that another building in this ward has been targeted by metal thieves. It can cost thousands to put right."

"This is a group that is just trying to entertain people and a very successful group for young people."

Councillor Ansell has urged townsfolk to sign an online petition calling for a change in the law on how the scrap metal trade works.

More than 40,000 have added their names. If it gets 100,000 signatures, it will be debated in Parliament.

The campaign calls for all transactions to be made by cheque or into a bank account in a bid to cut thefts.

Anyone with information about the youth theatre roof theft can call police on 0345 113 5000.

## Victory is claimed over mini-motos

A CRACKDOWN on off-road bikers in a Walsall neighbourhood has been hailed a great success.

Around £8,000 has been spent tackling the problem, which had been plaguing Doe Bank Park in Pheasey.

CCTV cameras have been put up and patrols stepped up. Council chiefs have claimed the problem has been successfully tackled.

Councillor Chris Towe, chairman of Aldridge and Beacon Area Partnership, said: "This was a real issue for residents and we have been able to take firm and decisive action."

Residents should not be afraid to use their local park."

### Stitching time

TOWNSFOLK can join a sewing club created at a community centre in Blawith. It's Sew Easy is held at the Stan Ball Centre, in Abbotts

Street, each Monday from 1pm to 3pm and on Tuesday from 10am to midday. The cost is £4 and a sewing machine, iron and ironing board are available.

## Patrols after vandal attack at allotments

POLICE patrols have been stepped up at allotments in Walsall after a greenhouse was destroyed and four sheds damaged by arsonists in one attack in Lane Avenue, Reedswood.

West Midlands Police said despite extensive inquiries involving a trawl of CCTV footage and house-to-house inquiries, no arrests have yet been made. But they have now launched regular patrols at the site in a bid to catch those responsible and deter others from carrying out attacks.

The site is operated by West Walsall Leisure Gardens which hopes to revamp it to the tune of tens of thousands of pounds when funding is available.

### Regularly

Gardens secretary Richard Stynes said: "We have been very concerned about this fire because people have worked very hard to put up their sheds and prepare their plots. "We have been working with the police to try and catch the culprits as there have been other minor incidents of vandalism on one or two of the sheds. The beat officers have been patrolling regularly."

Police spokesman Billy Corrigan said officers were keen to hear from anyone with information which would lead to an arrest and said officers had stepped up patrols

## Children singing in aid of hospice

CHOIRS from a church and school in Walsall will come together to stage a carol service in aid of a hospice charity next week.

St Gabriel's Church choir will join the choir from Joseph Leckie Technology College at the Walstead Road church at 7pm on Tuesday, December 13 to raise money for Acorns Children's Hospice, which supports children with life-threatening conditions from its hospices in Walsall, Birmingham and Worcester.

Fr Mark McIntyre, from St Gabriel's, said: "It's fantastic to be able to show our support for such a great local cause."

## Naval air team drops in

PUPILS and staff at a Pelsall secondary school enjoyed a visit from 815 Naval Air Squadron.

The flight team performed a fly past before landing in the grounds of Sheffield Community Academy.

Students had the chance to see the aircraft up close as well as explore the cabin and sit in the cockpit.

Andy Turner, from the school, said: "Many of our pupils seriously consider

a career within the armed forces and the flight team along with the Birmingham Careers Office were able to answer the pupils' questions regarding entry to the armed forces and potential career opportunities.

"In years to come it will be experiences like this that the students remember."

On their departure 815 Naval Air Squadron were cheered.

## Shorter break at Christmas is defended

COUNCIL bosses have insisted they have a "responsibility" to offer support to taxpayers in Walsall after axing a three-day Christmas break for up to 200 staff this year. Some will return to duty on Wednesday, December 28.

The list of services which will be open include neighbourhood services, environmental health and consumer services, trading standards and enforcement, First Stop shop, contact centre, registrars, highways, Street Pride and bereavement.

Council staff will also be available to pick up support on matters relating to benefits, social care and children's services, council tax and banking.

Finance and personnel chief Councillor Christopher Towe said: "Our residents are at the heart of everything we do and we have a responsibility to make sure the support they receive continues at a time when, generally speaking, these services have not been available on this day."

"Council services are normally closed for three days at Christmas, but we have decided this is no longer in the best interests of our customers."

"Our operations will continue."

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

A DISQUALIFIED Walsall coach driver who twice obtained a licence with fake names drove children to school while nearly three times over the drink-drive limit, a court was told.

Sanjeev Madahar's driving was described as "erratic" and he kept asking for directions as he drove Sandwell Academy pupils to school in July. The 42-year-old had been disqualified from driving for five years. He changed his name by deed poll to apply for a new licence, lost that, and applied for a third licence under another false name.

Using that, he worked as a driver at Thandi Executive Coaches. He was remanded in custody by magistrates in Sandwell last week ahead of sentencing at Wolverhampton Crown Court on December 23.

Rachael Smith, prosecuting, said Madahar, of Blue Cedar Drive, Streetly, was disqualified from driving under his first name, Vikramjeet. He changed his name to Sanjeev by deed poll and lost a second licence. Using the name Bobby he obtained a third licence and a job at Thandi Executive Coaches, in Smethwick.

On the school run a steward on the coach noticed he was erratic.

"He suspected he may have been under the influence of alcohol. When they stopped, police were called."

### Despair

"He admitted he'd been at a friend's house drinking until 4am the night before," Ms Smith added.

Madahar's test reading was 238mg in 100ml of blood. The legal limit is 80.

He admitted fraud, driving while disqualified, obtaining a licence while disqualified, drink driving and driving without insurance.

Chris Stapleton, defending, said Madahar committed the fraud because he was "a man in the depths of despair who wanted work."

Thandi's owner, Ajmal Singh, said after the hearing: "His licence checked out as normal with the DVLA when we employed him."

## Estate agent Lee is a hot property

AN ESTATE agent is bucking the economic climate by setting up his own business in Walsall.

Lee Edwards, aged 28, set up his company Anchor Estates in High Street, Aldridge, and is hoping to take on two members of staff next year.

He started work at Skitts estate agents in Wednesfield where he trained after leaving Aldridge High School, and set up LNS Prestige in Willenhall in 2008 with a friend.

Mr Edwards, from Aldridge, said: "I'm quietly confident."

## Modern students so smooth



Scott Malpas, Lisa Jewkes and Walsall Fire Station crew commander Neil Turner take part in a leg wax to raise money for good causes

COLLEGE students teamed up with firefighters in Walsall and had their legs waxed to raise money for good causes.

Seventeen young people from the Prince's Trust programme at City of Wolverhampton College visited the station in Blue Lane West last week, raising cash to carry out two community projects.

The students, aged between 16 and 25, intend to spruce up Birchills and

North Walsall Children's Centre and revamp a women's shelter in the town.

Team leader Jane Littlehailes said: "This is the first time we have worked out of Walsall Fire Station and we are delighted to have enlisted the help of the firefighters in raising this cash."

The Prince's Trust programme is a 12-week personal development course for young people, whether employed, unemployed or in education.

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## Fire forces out probation staff Orchard scheme is bearing fruit

MORE than 100 staff at a probation complex in Walsall have been forced to move out following a fire attack.

Arsonists targeted the Staffordshire & West Midlands Probation Service offices in Midland Road, Walsall.

Workers have had to uproot and move to offices at Walsall Magistrates' Court or to the probation service's offices in Wolverhampton and Perry Barr, Birmingham, while work to repair the damage is carried out.

Gavin Pearce, of Staffordshire & West Midlands Probation Trust, said: "The fire mainly damaged the reception area, while there is some water damage in other rooms."

"A business continuity plan is being followed to maintain a level of service to the community. The building is now a

crime scene as part of the police investigation."

Thirty firefighters tackled the blaze at the centre - which is used for officers to meet with offenders and discuss their rehabilitation - after it was set alight at 11pm last Wednesday.

The fire was started on the ground floor of the three-storey building. It caused considerable damage, and windows shattered in the intense heat.

A COMMUNITY orchard has been earmarked for Bloxwich and would see fruit trees planted at a site in Ashbourne Road early next year.

Schools, community groups and local charities would be encouraged to harvest and sell the fruit to raise funds.

It comes as work continues on a new orchard in Walsall Arboretum, where fruit will eventually be juiced for local

schools. More than 1,000 apple, pear and plum trees, among others at the site, are due to be harvested in 2013.

A consultation period with residents about the newly proposed orchard in Bloxwich is expected to run until January.

Nikki Rolls, from Bloxwich district centre management team, said: "The idea has been proposed and it will allow local charities, community groups

and schools to come along, maintain and harvest the fruit to make money.

"We are still going to have a consultation with residents about the plans."

"If people like the idea we will make an application for the trees to the Tree Council and the latest they should be planted is February."

"We are not sure yet how many trees there would be."

## Swim pool thief took children's mobiles

A THIEF sneaked into a changing room and stole mobile phones and a watch belonging to Walsall schoolchildren as they swam at a borough leisure centre.

Lee Lynch targeted the youngsters as they swam at the University of Wolverhampton's Walsall campus sports centre, Mr Jason Corden-Bowen, prosecuting, told the town's magistrates last Thursday.

Lynch was remanded in custody until tomorrow (Friday), when he is due to be sentenced at Birmingham Crown Court on other matters.

A group of pupils from Hydesville Tower School, in Broadway North, had visited the Gorway Road leisure centre for a swimming lesson, Mr Corden-Bowen said.

The children did not lock away their possessions in the changing rooms before going to the pool at 12.50pm.

When they returned about an hour-and-a-half later, two pupils discovered their phones missing and another found his watch had disappeared.

### Responsible

The thefts, which happened on October 6, were reported to the police who reviewed CCTV footage and saw Lynch acting suspiciously.

Mr Corden-Bowen said: "This was a sneak theft. Lynch went into the changing room and took the mobile phones out of pockets."

"The victims were pupils from a school who had gone to the leisure centre for a swimming lesson."

Lynch, of Chilvers Grove, King'shurst, Solihull, was arrested less than a week later at his home.

He initially denied the offences and told police he had been at the leisure centre but was not responsible for stealing the items, which included a £30 LED watch, £250 Apple iPhone 2 and £200 BlackBerry Curve phone.

The 48-year-old was due to stand trial but pleaded guilty to three counts of theft. Two further counts of theft from October 11 were discontinued.

## Extension bid by town post office

A POST office and general store in Willenhall is poised to be extended into an empty building next door.

The ground floor of the residential property at 57 High Road is to be converted into retail use as part of the proposals.

It will allow the general store to increase in size and bring an empty property back into use. Two new one-bedroom upstairs flats are also earmarked as part of the scheme.

RMS Designs stated in a planning document: "The application will give the existing general store more retail space along with providing a store room to the rear."

## Ahead of schedule

A £750,000 SCHEME to revamp a day centre and sheltered housing complex for pensioners in Walsall is due to be completed in January, earlier than expected.

The Apna Ghar Centre, Pleck, provides 60 pensioners a month with day care and it also has 16 apartments.

## Dog owners warned of danger mess

DOG owners are to be urged to keep pets on a lead at the Walsall Arboretum play area under an action plan to improve safety for children and crack down on fouling.

It is part of an action plan being introduced at borough parks after a survey revealed dog dirt was a major concern for 41 per cent of residents. There will also be a poster, leaflet and promotion campaign.

Former Arboretum champion Barry Sanders had suggested the Broadway North site should have a dog controlled zone, but this has been rejected by the Walsall South area community meeting on legal grounds.

### Cleanest

Walsall South area community meeting chairman Councillor Zahid Ali said: "It would be difficult to impose a blanket ban on dogs not on leads, but there is scope to concentrate efforts around play areas."

"There is scientific data which suggests that children are at risk from dog fouling. Therefore, we are looking at more patrols. The dog warden has been issued with guidance."

There were 339 reports of dog fouling in Walsall in 12 months, with Streety having the cleanest streets and Palfrey and Pleck the dirtiest.

## Housing group is repaid £1.2m

A WALSALL housing landlord is on the road to recouping most of the money it invested in a doomed Icelandic bank.

Caldmore Area Housing Association said it have now received £1.2 million back of the £2m it had ploughed into the Kaupthing Singer & Friedlander (KSF) bank before it collapsed in 2008 with huge debts.

The housing group joined forces with other organisations and charities in taking legal action to recoup its money.

Chief executive Mike Hew said: "This money is being ploughed into providing even better services to our residents, including new initiatives that are promoting job and training opportunities."

## Landscape photos theme

LANDSCAPE photographer Jon Baker shows his work to Aldridge Photographic Society tonight (Thursday) at Aldridge Community Centre.

Mr Baker, a member of The Wrekin Arts Photographic Society, in Shropshire, likes to take his photographs in the Welsh borders, showing the wild and dramatic area with mountains and expressive skies and the people and industries of the area.

## Funeral date of former council stalwart Roy

THE funeral takes place next week of a 79-year-old former Walsall councillor described as a man of the people who loved the community he served.

Tributes were paid to former councillor Roy Cooper, who represented the Blakenall ward, by friends and former colleagues.

His funeral will be at Streety Crematorium at 1.30pm on Monday, December 12, followed by a wake at Rushall Olympic FC, in Dales Lane.

The grandfather was an independent representative for Blakenall from 1982 to 1987 and from 1991 to 1995.

He leaves behind wife Marion and daughters Sue, Angela and Amanda.

Daughter Amanda Wilkes said: "He used to always say he worked to represent the local people and that he was proud of his borough. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather - a true family man."

Mr Cooper lived in Coalpool and worked as a toolsetter for several firms. He was involved in Blakenall Carnival and raised money for the Walsall Blind Centre, including a Land's End to John O'Groats walk.

He died on November 24.

### Summer

But the association refused to budge from the council-owned land, saying it has the right to remain in its home, where it holds events for families, including a summer holiday play scheme.

Caroline Crolley, spokeswoman for Green Rivers, said: "We were invited by the council leader to come and sit down and discuss the provision of a new building for Green Rivers."

"We had a great reception from the council. We're delighted at the result, and pleased that it's all come to an end. "The log cabin style will fit in well with the location near the canal."

## Mother, 26, guilty of fiddling benefit

A MOTHER from Bloxwich has been ordered to repay more than £2,000 she illegally claimed in benefits.

Anne Marie Leadbeater, aged 26, failed to tell the Department for Work & Pensions her partner worked when he moved in with her. She was overpaid £1,879 in income support, £125 in housing benefit and £24 in council tax. Walsall magistrates were told.

Leadbeater, of Victoria Avenue, admitted two offences of failing to notify a change in her circumstances between May and November 2010.

Leadbeater was told to repay the money, fined £335, ordered to pay costs £250 and a victims' surcharge of £15.

## Meat the winner with judges



Steve and Mark Turner celebrate success at the English Winter Fair

BROTHERS who run a butchers in Walsall scooped a string of awards for their pies, sausages and bacon.

George Turner & Sons in High Street, Pelsall, won six gold and two silver medals at the Staffordshire and Birmingham Agricultural Society's English Winter Fair.

The contest was held at the Stafford-

shire County Showground last month.

Mark and Stephen Turner took first prizes for their pies, sausages and dry cured bacon.

They won silver for their turkey ham and cranberry pie and beef and stilton sausage. Stephen said: "It's absolutely fantastic we won so many golds. They are family recipes."

Advertisement Feature

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## thechronicle

£100,000  
saddlery  
gear taken

ALMOST £100,000-worth of riding equipment has been stolen from an equestrian base near Bloxwich.

Bosses at Barker Saddlery, Essington, said they have been left empty-handed after their entire stock, which they take around the country to horse shows, was stolen.

Sarah Barker issued an appeal for help to trace the equipment, which includes saddles, whips, jodhpurs and rugs.

## Return

The equipment was in a van stolen from the company's Essington base overnight following a horse show the day before. The van was later found, but all the equipment was missing.

Mrs Barker, aged 36, said the saddlery equipment had been left in the van following her late return from the Your Horse show, in Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, on November 12-13. It was only the next morning, when she came to unpack the van, that she found the gear missing.

Staffordshire Police said: "Anyone with information should call 101 or Crime-stoppers on 0800 555 111."

Handy hints  
on funding

HELP will be offered to community groups in search of funding at a surgery in Walsall.

Walsall Voluntary Action is running a funding and development surgery on Monday, December 14. Groups can get advice on where to look for funding. Book a 45 minute slot by calling 01922 619840.

Vicky a splash  
hit on bike trek

Martyn Lever, Vicky Bates and Ron Richards, who arranged and took part in a fundraising bike ride in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support

A GROUP of novice bike riders made a splash – quite literally – during a 50-mile charity mission. Walsall fundraiser Ron Richards led 15 friends for seven hours along the West Midlands canal network in September for his 50th birthday. It also marked the 20th anniversary of his father's death.

Raising money for Macmillan, who supported Ron's father during his battle with cancer, the "50 at 50" bike ride has so far raised more than £3,000.

Vicky Bates, one of the marathon team, even took a dip at the end of the course after riding her bike into the water.

Ron, who lives in Alumwell, said: "The charity means such a lot to me. It is my way of saying 'thank you' to them for the care and support they gave to my dad and mum during a difficult time – they really were fantastic."

## Target

"All of the events take a lot of arranging, but I have really been encouraged to raise even more money in the future for other worthy charities."

Ron added: "The bike ride was a huge

By Sarah Hazelwood

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

success, and it was great to have my friends there supporting me.

"I really appreciate all those who have donated to help us more than double our initial target of £1,500."

With the help of his friends, Ron has also hosted a series of quiz nights, the latest at Hawkins Sports & Social Club, in Coppice Lane, Cheslyn Hay, which raised a further £200.

Ron is now hoping to hit £4,000 by the end of the year. Visit [www.justgiving.com/ronaldrichards](http://www.justgiving.com/ronaldrichards) to donate to the fund.

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## Tycoon begins £27m academy rebuilding

THE creation of a new £27 million academy school in Walsall has been launched.

Businessman Lord Edmiston joined staff, pupils and workmen at a ground-breaking ceremony to mark the start of building work at the Grace Academy.

### Millionaire

The school, in Herberts Park Road, Darlaston, will be completely rebuilt, creating extra classrooms and new sports facilities. The new building will see almost half of the neighbouring George Rose Park swallowed up.

Millionaire evangelical businessman Lord Edmiston is sponsoring the academy. He took part in the ceremony before builders from Kier Moss got to work on laying the foundations.

The school will also boast a

lecture theatre, media centre, dance and drama rooms.

Principal Nick Marshall said: "We are absolutely delighted that at long last the students of Darlaston are getting what they deserve. It's a fantastic new facility."

Grace Academy replaced Darlaston Community Science College in 2009.

An Ofsted inspection earlier this year revealed the school had made "remarkable improvement" since becoming an academy.

There were initial complaints about the new school building taking over around 52 per cent of George Rose Park.

But £300,000 has been ploughed into the park as part of the development.

The cash will be used to create skate ramps and a zip wire as a compensation.



Ground breaking ceremony at Grace Academy with Lord Edmiston and pupil Alison Westwood, 18.

## Dog's barking costs pair £1k

A WALSALL couple whose pet dog's barking disturbed neighbours have been ordered to pay more than £1,000.

Richard and Dawn Barton said they may now be forced to put it to sleep.

Walsall magistrates were told that the Jack Russell terrier had "considerable impact" on the couple's neighbours in Burgh Way.

Mr Dominic Patouchas, prosecuting, on behalf of Walsall Council, said: "One

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said due to his work patterns he is regularly at home at all times of the day.

"Some said it is impossible to relax or even sleep due to the regular loud barking, and have to keep the doors and windows closed, but even so are still being disturbed."

Mr Barton said the Bartons had been trying to rehoming the dog, which they have had for 12 years, and

that if they could not do so they would have her put to sleep.

Mr Patouchas said the pair had received five summonses for breaching an abatement notice served by the council when the dog disturbed neighbours between March 3 and August 6, 2011.

The couple admitted five breaches of the abatement notice.

They were each fined £200, with £300 costs and £15 victim surcharge.

## Rotarians' £5k boost

CHEQUES totalling £5,000 will be presented to charities at a Rotary Club of Walsall's luncheon next week at Calderfields Golf Club.

As the result of two major local fundraising events - Walsall Last Night at the Proms and the annual 10km and 5km Runs, cheques for £2,500 each will be presented to two local charities on Friday, December 16.

The main two charities of president Roy Quinton are the Midlands Air Ambulance and the St. Giles Walsall Hospice. The latter has already received £50,000 to furnish a Family Room and the Air Ambulance has received regular donations.

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# Unsung heroes are honoured in Doras

WALSALL'S unsung heroes were honoured at the eight annual civic awards. Inspirational people of all ages were celebrated at the ceremony, held at Walsall FC's Banks's Stadium.

Nine awards, affectionately known as the Doras, were handed out by host BBC radio presenter Bob Brolly and the Mayor of Walsall Councillor Garry Perry. Councillor Perry said: "The award-winners and runners-up alike are amazing, often overcoming personal struggles or ill health, to do good for others. They help make Walsall better for all."

Aston Villa fan Dean Cordelle, aged 17, was crowned Walsall's young citizen of the year, thanks to his volunteer work.

Aldridge swimming star Tully Kearney, aged 14 scooped the outstanding sporting achievement gong. The 14-year-old, of Aldridge, who has spastic diplegia, won seven gold medals in the DSE junior disability cham-

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pionships and is now working hard in preparation for the Paralympic Games in London next summer.

Members of the Grange Players hit all the right notes to receive Walsall's creative spirit award. The group, which is based at the Grange Playhouse, was formed in 1951 and has been encouraging townsfolk's interest in drama and theatre.

The green award was picked up by Park Hall Residents' Association for its efforts in transforming and improving Park Hall pool and green. Members have planted thousands of bulbs and shrubs to create a little oasis of green. Margaret Jones, treasurer, said: "We're delighted with this award and welcome anyone who'd like to come along and see the area."

Maureen Morris and Kath Instone were announced as the winners of Walsall's community contribution award. The pair were honoured for their work with the charity Golden Wishes, which was founded in 1992 by staff at Crabtree Industries Ltd, and has raised tens of thousands of pounds for vital medical equipment.

## Achievement

The Sister Dora award went to Jennifer Robinson, a matron for older adults at the Manor Hospital and Brownie Guider and Stephanie Poppitt, occupational therapist at Walsall Council's social care and inclusion team.

Outstanding achievement award went to Jo Yarnall, founder of Parents Relatives and Others Understanding Downs (PROUD). She set up the group following the birth of daughter Hannah, who has Downs Syndrome.

The lifetime achievement award was handed to Stuart Chapman and Mohammed Aslam. Mr Chapman is a community champion for housing issues and works for Walsall Tenants and Residents Federation, while 71-year-old Mr Aslam formed the Midland International Aid Trust to help communities hit by disasters.

Vivien Russel, aged 57, won the inspiring teacher award for organising industry days and events to help youngsters into the workplace.

Special awards went to Jane Sturgess, of Bentley Ladies Group, the Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust health transition team and to 12-year-old Liam Humpage.



Jo Yarnall, centre, with host Bob Brolly and Jane Preece of Walsall Housing Group, collected the outstanding achievement gong at the Mayor of Walsall awards



Walsall Council's Stephanie Poppitt shared the special Sister Dora award



Maureen Morris and Kath Instone of charity Golden Wishes were honoured



Theatre group The Grange Players took the Creative Spirit Award

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# Santa nav installed for town sleigh ride



CO-ordinator Clare Button with Peter Whitehouse and Madison Welsh, of Lower Farm School, test their hand washing skills

## Victory over the germs

NHS Mental Health staff from Bloxwich took time out of their day jobs to promote healthy eating, exercise and the importance of clean hands to school children.

Seventy youngsters attended the Gimme 5 event at Bloxwich Hospital organised by staff at Dudley & Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust.

Children from Busill Jones Primary, Bloxwich CE Primary and Lower Farm Primary took part in a number of activities and competitions.

Activity co-ordinators from

Bloxwich Hospital were on hands to get the children up and moving and encourage them to get involved in more physical activity, supported by Walsall Healthcare NHS Physical Activity Programme Adviser.

The children were also given the chance to see just how clean their hands were. Staff from the Infection Prevention and Control team bought along their glow box and special glitter bug potion to demonstrate where the children had missed when they washed their hands.

By Sarah Hazelwood

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

A 21ST CENTURY Father Christmas will be making his way around Bloxwich – with GPS navigation so youngsters can track his whereabouts.

The Rotary Club of Bloxwich Phoenix will accompany Santa and his helpers on his travels. His six-day journey will start in Blakenall tomorrow (December 9) from 6.30pm-8.45pm before moving on to Mossley on Saturday from 4.30pm-8.45pm.

On Tuesday December 13 youngsters in Pelsall will get a glimpse of Santa between 6.30pm and 8.45pm and the same time on Wednesday December 14 in the Dudley Fields area.

Lower Farm residents will welcome the sleigh on Friday December 16 between 6.30pm and 8.45pm before he completes his last route on Saturday December 17, from 4.30pm and 8.45pm in Turnberry.

Using the latest technology, Santa's exact location on each of his routes can be tracked on-line at [www.bloxwichphoenix.net](http://www.bloxwichphoenix.net) to ensure no-one misses him passing by homes.

Andrew Higham president of Bloxwich Phoenix, said: "Every year, our collection nights with the sleigh have been very much supported by the community.

### Personalise

"We actually get to know many of the residents who look forward to our festive visit during the run up to Christmas.

"The monies collected form a key part of our all year round fundraising."

The cash collected from the Santa sleigh will be donated to the Rotary Foundation which provides support to projects at home and abroad in the drive to eliminate polio.

Parents are also being given the chance to organise a letter from Santa to hand to the youngsters on each of his routes.

Send the name and address of the child with some information to personalise the letter to Santa c/o, 28a Lister Street, Willenhall, WV13 2HQ, or visit the website to make a request.

Santa can also be e-mailed at [santa@bloxwich-phoenix.net](mailto:santa@bloxwich-phoenix.net) to answer any queries.

Anyone who would like to become a volunteer at the Rotary Club is invited to attend the group's Sunday meeting at 7.30pm, at the Ivy House, Stafford Road, Great Wyrley, or call 0870 458 1696 for more details.

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# Pride as our boys return from battle

HUNDREDS of people lined the streets of Walsall and waved the Union Flag as soldiers from the 3rd Battalion the Mercian Regiment paraded through the town centre.

Crowds applauded as The Staffords marched through the town before taking the salute outside the Council House. The homecoming parade was to mark the end of the troops' tour of duty in Afghanistan, and there were plenty of families and well-wishers cheering them along.

Among those celebrating with the soldiers was 23-year-old Walsall FC striker Alex Nicholls, from Bloxwich, who came with his partner Amy McCann, 28, and their daughter, Grace, two, to

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support his brother, Cpl Mark Nicholls, aged 25, whose partner Stacey, 22, of Tamworth, was there.

Their parents Cathy, 50, and Kevin, 52, also took part in the celebrations.

Cpl Nicholls said: "I'm surprised by such a good turnout. It's nice to have everyone together because Alex is always playing football and I'm never here so it's very rare that we are all together."

Amanda Buckler, aged 50, of Holden's Crescent, Coalpool, was there supporting her son Sgt Sam Buckler, with her daughter Becky, 28, a barmaid, and mother Teresa Wright, aged 68.

"We are here to show how proud we are of him. It's overwhelming to be here and quite emotional – a great day," Amanda said.

Another parent, Linda Duffy, aged 48, a support worker, of Laburnum Avenue, Smethwick, came to Walsall to cheer her son Pte Bobby Duffy, 25.

Linda said: "I'm proud as punch. I'm also here for his wife, Carla, who couldn't be here because she lives in Germany with Bobby and the passport for their newborn baby, Jonathan, didn't come in time."

"It's so lovely to see everyone here."

## Retired

Joyce Pitchford, aged 68, of Caldmore, was at the parade with pals Joan Osbourne, 68, of Birchills, and Hazel Sumner, 75, of Caldmore.

Joyce said: "My friend told me all about the parade, as her grandson has just come from Afghanistan and she said she would be down here. It's a great atmosphere."

Joan said: "We are here supporting the boys and showing our appreciation for what they've done over the years. I really admire them."

Sgt Lee Venables, aged 37, of Penderel Street, Bloxwich, who was one of the local men handed a medal in the ceremony at Walsall town hall, in Leicester Street, after the parade last Thursday, said: "This kind of thing makes you proud to be in the army. So much is said about the army that it's lovely to come back to this kind of support."

"Most soldiers will get a knot in their throat during the parade, but they would never show it."

His father, Alan, aged 62, retired, also of Penderel Street, said: "It's been fantastic, I'm surprised to see so many people here."



Eyes right for 3rd Mercian regiment as they march past the town hall in Leicester Street, Walsall



Soldier David Buckler with his nan, Teresa Wright, and sister, Becky



Cpl Mark Nicholls with his brother, Walsall FC player Alex Nicholls



Major Steve Burton and L/Cpl Watchman V, the regiment's Staffordshire bull terrier mascot



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## Thieving carer helps to pay for OAP grave

A CARE worker from Walsall who stole hundreds of pounds from a dying woman has been ordered to pay back the money she stole so that relatives can afford a headstone.

Linda Kent, aged 42, stole a bank card from 83-year-old Margaret Lewis and raided her bank account, taking a total of £750.

She admitted one charge of theft between August 7 and October 31 this year when she appeared before Walsall magistrates last week.

### Shaken

Jason Corden-Bowen, prosecuting, said the money was taken from the pensioner's account in three sums of £250, one of which was after her death.

Daughter Jane Collins was going through her mother's bank statements after her

death when she made the discovery and alerted police.

Ms Collins felt her faith in humanity had been "shaken" after discovering the theft had been committed by her mother's carer, he added.

Mrs Lewis, of Mulberry Road, Bloxwich, had a fall and was in hospital during the time Kent, of Parker Street, was raiding her bank account.

Mr Corden-Bowen said the money would have been used to buy a headstone for Mrs Lewis's grave, and her family asked for compensation so this could be bought.

Shamed Kent had brought £750 cash to the court to pay the family back in full, and sat through the hearing with her head bowed.

Kent was also ordered to pay £85 costs, carry out 100 hours of unpaid work and was given a 12-month community order.



Linda Kent outside Walsall Magistrates' Court

## Former store 'needs using'

A FORMER supermarket building in the heart of Willenhall which closed in September must not be left to stand empty for months on end, a Walsall councillor urged.

A rallying cry has been issued to try to generate interest in the former Somerfield building in New Road, Willenhall.

Labour's Councillor Carl Creaney said the building was a good size and in a prime location and urged

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businesses to take a look.

The store closed down more than two months ago due to a "poor trading performance".

### Leased

Councillor Creaney said last week: "This is a very prominent building and it would be a great spot for a lot of businesses."

"We don't want to see it standing empty for months on end. It is in a prime loca-

tion right at the very heart of Willenhall, it's a good size and in a good condition and has a good-sized car park."

"Businesses should come and take a look at Willenhall."

The Co-operative Group leases the building and said efforts were being made to find a new occupant.

Spokeswoman Helen Seed said: "We can confirm that the former Somerfield store on New Road, Willenhall, is leased by the group and that we are currently looking to relet it."

## Taxi plea on vehicle age

WALSALL'S Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association wants to remove the age limits on vehicles.

It has written to the council's Licensing and Safety Committee requesting that the limits for licensed vehicles be removed or, at the very least, the five-year restriction for private hire vehicles be lifted.

Private hire vehicles must be under five years old to get a licence. In respect of hackney carriages, the conditions of licence state that the vehicle must be new and wheelchair-accessible.

There are 619 private hire vehicles, with 85 per cent five years of age or over. Of hackney carriages, 74 per cent are over six years.

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# A dash of colour as students graduate



Graduation day for students from Walsall College with town crier Cyril Richardson who led the parade to the town hall

walsallchronicle@  
expressandstar.co.uk

MORE than 450 Walsall College graduates donned caps and gowns for a ceremony to celebrate their achievements.

Town centre shoppers were treated to a colourful procession on Sunday afternoon, November 27, as the former students made their way from the Littleton Street West campus to the town hall.

Unofficial town crier Cyril Richardson led the parade through the town centre streets.

The achievers wore black gowns with green, blue, red and yellow collars were presented with certificates for courses including Higher National Diplomas, Higher National Certificates and foundation degrees.

## Adversity

Special awards were also presented to outstanding students or those who had overcome adversity to complete their courses.

They followed a route along Wise-more, to St Paul's Street, Park Street before arriving at the venue in Leicester Street for the ceremony cheered on by delighted relatives and college staff.

Trainee chef Guru Paudel, aged 30, originally from Nepal, said: "It's been really nice to see everybody from my course and it has felt good to be taking part."

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thechronicle

# Building college bid at site of old school

## Gifts all boxed up for pupils

YOUNGSTERS from Willenhall were presented with goody bags and sports equipment for their schools to celebrate a scheme run by a supermarket chain.

The Tesco for Schools & Clubs scheme allows shoppers to collect vouchers in stores, which can be exchanged for equipment.

Children from four primary schools – namely Fibbersley Park Primary, Short Heath Juniors, Pool Hayes Primary and Beacon Primary – were presented with the gifts at the Tesco store in Owen Road, Willenhall, by store manager Jenn Hemmings.

Walsall North MP David Winnick also attended the presentation.

Tesco community champion Alveen Biggs said: "This presentation is to celebrate the scheme."



David Winnick MP, and schoolchildren who received goody bags and boxes from Tesco

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

A NEW multi-million pound college specialising in building and construction is being planned for Walsall.

It would be the second university technical college in the borough and one of just a handful in the country. It is believed the college is being earmarked to transform the former site of axed Sneyd Community School, in Bloxwich.

Consultation is currently being carried out and if successful, a bid could be submitted by CITB-Construction Skills to the Government for the new college as early as January.

The former Sneyd School, in Vernon Way, is already home to the Black Country University Technical College, specialising in engineering for 14 to 19-year-olds.

### Presence

Nigel Donohue, of CITB-Construction Skills, said: "We're working in conjunction with Walsall Council and partners Walsall College and Wolverhampton University on a bid for a West Midlands Construction University Technical College in the Walsall area."

Council leader Mike Bird said: "It would be a fantastic opportunity to have a regional presence by the CITB in Walsall and build on the success of the Black Country UTC."



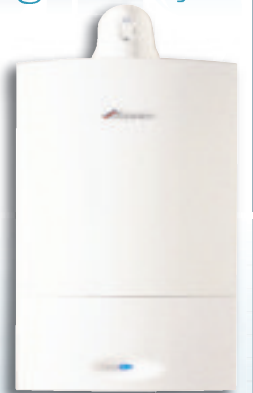
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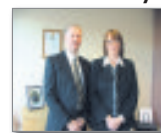
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# Spurned lover in knife threat



South Walsall Allotments members Bob Woolley, Malcolm Brettell and John Glover

## Growing enthusiasm

MANY allotments may have ever-growing waiting lists, but one site in Walsall is bucking the trend.

Broadway Allotments currently has 40 vacant plots. Bosses at the allotments, off Broadway, admit plots are "a little bit run-down", but could be brought back to life with hard graft.

The manager of the privately-run site, Robert Woolley, said: "Once people have tried their own fruit and vegetables, they'll never go back. We only charge £30 a year and £1 for insurance while the use of the rotavator is free." Anyone interested in taking a plot can call Mr Woolley on 07794417585.

walsallchronicle  
@expressandstar.co.uk

A JEALOUS man who threatened to stab his former girlfriend at the Walsall home they once shared has been given a suspended jail sentence.

Ben Hodgetts broke into the house in Tilsley Drive, Willenhall, when Mandy Doughty returned from a night out with friends at 4am.

The couple had split up a fortnight earlier after two-and-a-half years together, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told last week.

Mark Phillips, prosecuting, said: "Ms Doughty found him inside when she opened the front door."

"She picked up a cordless phone and called the police."

"A short struggle developed while she tried to give details to the operator and he threw the phone against the wall and stamped on it."

### Criminal

Hodgetts was drunk and believed she had started a new relationship after checking text messages on her mobile phone.

The jealous 22-year-old grabbed hold of a kitchen knife with a five-inch blade, pointed it towards her and warned, "I could stab you", Mr Phillips added.

Hodgetts admitted criminal damage and affray and was given an eight month jail sentence, suspended for two years, with a 90-day night time curfew and a three-year exclusion order banning him from contacting Ms Doughty or going within 50 yards of her home. He must also have alcohol abuse treatment.

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# Father Christmases set off on festive jog

MORE than 100 fundraisers pulled on Santa suits and put their best foot forward for a fun run at Walsall Arboretum.

Charity supporters donned red suits for the event, which raised cash for Acorns Children's Hospice.

Runners and walkers took part in a 3k run to help raise thousands for the hospice, which has a branch in Walsall.

Miss Black Country Roshni

Pink helped start the race.

The Nicholls family from Darlaston including Tracy, Darren and their 10 year-old twins Tia and Rae were among the fundraisers.

Childminder Tracy, aged 41, of Rough Hay Road, said: "It is a bit of fun dressing up as Santa while raising cash."

Dinner lady Lucy Cowley, aged 39, of Trees Road, Fullbrook, said: "It is for a good cause, it's fun. I wanted to offer my support and is a different way to keep fit."



Darren and Tracy Nicholls, from Darlaston, with twins Tia, left, and Rae, both aged 10



Runners donned Santa suits for a jog at the Arboretum

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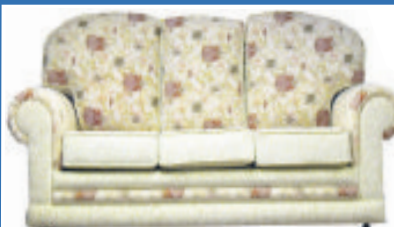
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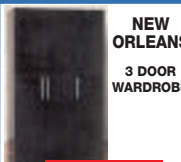
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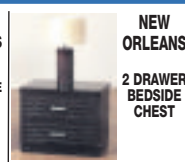
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Our website is regularly viewed by tens of thousands of local people each month as it contains all people need to find locally. This includes the most recommended businesses in Walsall, testimonials from local people, money savings offers, events, and information about what is going on in Walsall.

Below are just a few of our recommended businesses. To find out more about them and other local gems visit [www.thebestof.co.uk/walsall](http://www.thebestof.co.uk/walsall)



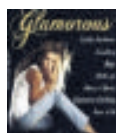
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# Europe smiling on hopeful Alyssa, 10

A 10-YEAR-OLD Moxley girl is off to Disneyland Paris to take part in a prestigious fashion show and to prove she's no Mickey Mouse competitor.

Alyssa Watts, a Moorcroft Wood Primary School pupil, is one of 10 girls of her age battling it out for the title of Face of Europe.

Alyssa and her sisters, Emilia and Eloise, have won more than 150 crowns and sashes between them as they have taken a host of honours in beauty contests.

Mum Karen said this was Alyssa's biggest competition to date.

She said: "She's done brilliantly to get this far. There were 5,000 girls who entered the competition and she's now one of 10 in her age group so that's quite an achievement already."

Judging was due to take place yesterday (Wednesday).



Alyssa Watts, 10, off to the finals of The Face of Europe

## thechronicle

### Metafin to create 50 jobs

UP TO 50 new jobs are being created by a family-run Walsall manufacturing company as it moves to new premises in the town.

Metafin's move to the historic Victor Works site will see its workforce increase by almost 50 per cent over the next three years. The company, which provides electro-painting and a powder-coating service, mostly to the motor industry, has outgrown its existing Green Lane site.

#### Heritage

Metafin chief executive David Parker said: "We had previously considered moving to bigger premises pre-recession, but with the pressures facing the motor industry at that time and in consultation with our bank, we took the decision to put the move on hold until the economic climate improved."

"We were very keen to maintain our Walsall ties and stay within the area for our workforce and to protect the heritage of the business. "This new site in Northcote Street will provide the company with the space it needs to accommodate future growth and to continue to develop," Mr Parker added.

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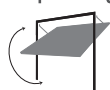
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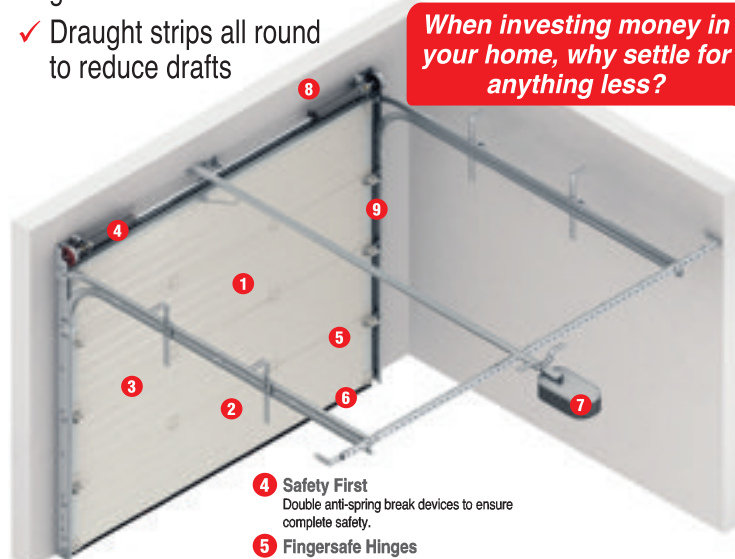
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To make an appointment, or for more details about Walsall PACE, please contact Sport & Leisure Development Services on 01902 605500.



Walsall Council



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# Chief defends police closure



Mick Davis and Karen Swinnerton taste success  
**Success so sweet**

A BUMPER crop of medals was harvested by Essington Fruit Farm at the England Winter Fair. Farmer Richard Simkin and his team picked up four gold medals, three silvers and a bronze. The fair was held at Staffordshire County Showground last month and judges awarded Essington's gammon the overall champion rosette, giving it a score of 99 out of 100. Mr Simkin and co picked up gold for their free-range gammon, bacon, sausages and turkey and ham pie. It was only the second time the farm had entered.

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

WEST Midlands chief constable has been forced to defend his plan to close Bloxwich police station overnight.

Two protest petitions with a total of nearly 4,000 signatures urging a rethink were handed to the police authority meeting in Birmingham last week.

Mr Sims said this "tremendous response" showed the consultation process was not flawed.

But Wolverhampton Councillor Bob Jones, the authority's finance chief, responded: "I find it difficult to understand how mass petitions and an outcry that the consultation has been totally inadequate can be used as evidence that the process is working."

## Impact

Dudley North MP Ian Austin handed in a 2,000-strong petition, pleading for Dudley police station to be spared. Another petition with 1,900 signatures calling for Bloxwich police station to stay open 24 hours a day, supported by a letter from Walsall North MP David Winnick.

The chief constable suggested minor alterations may be possible but warned: "If we deviate from the core of the proposals I will have to cut something else and that could have a more direct impact."

The force wants to shut 12 stations overnight – including Wednesfield, Dudley, Halesowen and Bloxwich – and redeploy staff to contact centres or front line duties.

Public consultation has now been extended from December 31 until January 15.

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**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Home Cooking Made Easy. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Live Snooker: UK Championship. The opening session of the second semi-final. **4.30** Final Score. **5.15** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **5.35** My Family. (R)

**6.30** **Strictly Come Dancing.** The five remaining couples compete for a place in next week's final.

**8.15** **Merlin.** Morgana and a powerful warlord plot to take over Camelot and with Arthur preoccupied with a visiting princess, it is left to the returning Gwen to raise the alarm.

**9.00** **Casualty.** Part two of two. Dylan and Zoe are trapped in resus while the fire rages, and Jay confronts Ruth in her office, oblivious to the chaos below. Starring Georgia Taylor. The series returns on January 7.

**9.50** **The National Lottery Saturday Night Draws.** Myleene Klass announces the all-important numbers.

**10.00** **BBC News: Weather.** **10.20** **Match of the Day.** Including highlights of Manchester United v Wolverhampton Wanderers; National Lottery Update.

**11.45** **The Football League Show.** Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two.

**1.05** Weatherview. **1.10** BBC News.

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **12.00** The Sky at Night. (R) **12.20** Coast. (R) **12.25** Astaire and Rogers Sing George and Ira Gershwin. **12.35** Film: A Damsel in Distress. (1937) **2.15** Film: Stage Door. (1937) **3.45** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. **4.30** Live Snooker: UK Championship. The opening session of the second semi-final. **5.30** One Man and His Dog.

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**6.30** **Flog It!** Anita Manning and Mark Stacey offer advice in Luton, while Paul Martin visits a local milliner working in the traditional hat industry. (R)

**7.00** **Live Snooker: UK Championship.** Hazel Irvine introduces coverage of the concluding session of the second semi-final at the Barbican Centre in York, where the first player to win nine frames will progress. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

**10.00** **QI XL.** With Ross Noble, Dara O Briain and Jeremy Clarkson. (R)

**10.45** **FILM: In the Valley of Elah.** (2007) Premiere. Drama, starring Tommy Lee Jones.

**12.25** Film: Heist. (2001) A thief is blackmailed into pulling off a robbery, and also suspects his wife is planning to leave him. Thriller, starring Gene Hackman. **2.10** Close.

**6.00** CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **9.25** Coronation Street. **11.45** This Morning: Saturday. **12.45** ITV News: Weather. **12.55** Film: Thunderbirds. (2004) Sci-fi adventure, starring Bill Paxton. **2.35** Film: The Mummy Returns. (2001) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Brendan Fraser. **5.00** Regional Programmes. **5.15** ITV News: Weather. **5.30** You've Been Framed! (R)

**6.00** **The Chase.** With Joe Pasquale, Janet Street-Porter, Mark Durden-Smith and Austin Healey. Last in the series.

**7.00** **This Is Justin Bieber.** The pop star performs his hits and meets Chelsea FC stars.

**8.00** **The X Factor Final.** The three remaining acts get ready for their most important performances yet as they arrive at Wembley Arena for the first part of the live final. Dermot O'Leary presents.

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**10.00** **Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Peter Andre.** Last in the series.

**11.00** **ITV News: Weather.** **11.15** **FILM: Nutty Professor II: The Klumps.** (2000) Comedy sequel, starring Eddie Murphy.

**1.10** **The Zone.** Interactive shopping and gaming; ITV News Headlines. **3.00** Kojak. (R) **3.55** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

**6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** Sailing. (R) **7.25** Offshore Academy. **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.50** T4: Smallville. (R) **9.55** T4: The Crush. **10.25** T4: Example: Backstage. **11.00** T4: Real Stories: Eminem. **12.00** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.35** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.40** Channel 4 Racing. **3.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.55** Come Dine with Me. (R)

**6.25** **Channel 4 News.** **6.55** **4thought.tv.** Michael Bray discusses his experience of being homeless.

**7.00** **Kirstie's Handmade Christmas.** Festive two-part in which Kirstie Allsopp holds a crafty Christmas. (R)

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**8.00** **Tony Robinson's Gods and Monsters.** The presenter turns his attention to disease.

**9.00** **FILM: Vicky Cristina Barcelona.** (2008) Premiere. Comedy, starring Scarlett Johansson and Rebecca Hall.

**11.00** **FILM: Double Jeopardy.** (1999) Thriller, starring Ashley Judd.

**1.00** Film: Unmade Beds. (2009) **2.40** Shameless USA. **4.30** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.15** River Cottage Bites. (R) **5.25** Countdown. (R)

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Animal Rescue Squad. (R) **10.20** The Gadget Show. (R) **11.20** Highland Emergency. (R) **11.50** Film: A Boyfriend for Christmas. (2004) **1.40** Film: All I Want for Christmas. (2007) Drama, starring Gail O'Grady. **3.25** Film: The Christmas Gift. (2009) Premiere. Festive drama, starring Dean Cain. **5.10** Film: Single Santa Seeks Mrs Claus. (2004) Comedy, starring Crystal Bernard.

**6.55** **5 News Weekend.** **7.00** **NCIS.** Three similar execution-style killings take place, and the agents suspect the wife of one of the victims – but, unfortunately for them, she has an alibi. Starring Michael Weatherly. (R)

**8.00** **NCIS.** Gibbs's former commanding officer is accused of murder. (R)

**9.00** **Tommy Cooper's Christmas.** A seasonal special from the archives, featuring mirth and magic, plus guest appearances by Sacha Distel and Clodagh Rodgers, who sing a medley of festive favourites. (R)

**10.05** **The Morecambe and Wise Christmas Show.** Festive special from 1981. (R)

**11.10** **Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll: The 60s Revealed.** Stars of the 1960s reflect on the past 40 years. (R)

**12.10** SuperCasino. **3.55** Great Artists. (R) **4.20** Divine Designs. (R) **4.45** Rough Guide to Journeys. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

**ITV2** **7.00** The Planet's Funniest Animals **7.30** Grimefighters **8.00** The World's Best Diet **9.00** Grimefighters **10.00** The Xtra Factor **11.15** Film: Hot Fuzz (2007) Action comedy, starring Simon Pegg.

**ITV3** **1.50** Sherlock Holmes: The Last Vampyre **4.05** Film: Agatha Christie's Murder with Mirrors (1985) **6.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Foyle's War **11.00** Murder in Suburbia

**ITV4** **1.00** Live Darts. The PDC Players Championship Finals. **5.00** 20 Managerial Appointments That Shook the World **6.00** Barcelona's Greatest Goals **7.00** Live Darts. The PDC Players Championship Finals. **11.00** Richard Bacon's Beer and Pizza Club **11.45** Film: Catch-22 (1970)

**BBC THREE** **7.00** The Real Hustle on Holiday **7.15** Great TV Mistakes **8.15** Top Gear **9.15** Russell Howard's Good News Extra **10.00** Film: Meet the Fockers (2004) **11.55** Family Guy

**BBC FOUR** **7.00** The Himalayas **8.00** Dinosaurs, Myths and Monsters **9.00** The Killing II **11.00** The Slap **11.55** Iron Ladies of Liberia

**E4** **3.45** Film: Deck the Halls (2006) **5.35** Desperate Scousewives **6.35** Perfect Couples **7.05** The Big Bang Theory **8.05** Happy Endings **8.30** How I Met Your Mother **9.00** The Big Bang Theory **10.00** Film: Shooter (2007)

**FILM4** **2.40** Shane (1953) Western, starring Alan Ladd. **4.55** Singin' in the Rain (1952) Musical comedy, starring Gene Kelly. **6.55** Ponyo (2008) Premiere. Animated fantasy, with the voice of Noah Lindsey Cyrus. **9.00** X-Men Origins: Wolverine (2009) **11.05** White Noise (2004)

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**6.00** Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Fern Britton Meets Russell Watson. **11.00** Country Tracks: Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.00** The Politics Show. **1.00** EastEnders. **2.55** The Impressions Show with Cullshaw and Stephenson. (R) **3.25** A Question of Sport. (R) **3.55** Frozen Planet. (R) **4.55** Songs of Praise. **5.30** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **5.55** Countryfile.

**6.55** Strictly Come Dancing. The semi-final result is announced.

**7.30** Antiques Roadshow. More items from Layer Marney Tower, near Colchester in Essex, including the first-aid box used on Ernest Shackleton's 1914 Antarctic expedition.

**8.30** Inspector George Gently. Bacchus and Gently investigate the murder of a woman linked to a consignment of stolen passports, taking them into the underground world of gang wars within the Arab community. (R)

**10.00** BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

**10.30** Match of the Day 2. Including highlights of Stoke City v Tottenham Hotspur.

**11.30** Have I Got a Bit More News for You. Extended edition, with guest host Miranda Hart. (R)

**12.05** Weatherview. **12.15** Sign Zone: Film 2011 with Claudia Winkleman. Reviews of Another Earth and New Year's Eve. (R) **12.55** Holly City. Hansen tries to manipulate Sahira. (R) **1.55** Bible's Buried Secrets. (R) **2.55** You've Been Scammed. (R) **3.40** BBC News.

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.00** Something for the Weekend. Presented by Tim Lovejoy and Louise Redknapp. **11.30** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. A selection of sugar-rich sweets and desserts. **12.15** Coast. (R) **12.30** Live Athletics. **2.15** Live Snooker: UK Championship.

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**6.00** Flog It! Paul Martin visits Sheffield to meet people eager to make a profit selling their valuables, and looks around Cutlers Hall to learn more about knife-makers' marks. (R)

**7.00** The Party's Over: How the West Went Bust. Conclusion. Britain's future in the global economy.

**8.00** Live Snooker: UK Championship. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the concluding session of the final at the Barbican Centre in York, where the players need to reach 10 frames to be crowned champion. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

**11.00** Rev. Richard E Grant guest stars. (R) **11.30** Never Mind the Buzzcocks. With guest host Cilla Black. (R)

**12.00** Film: Full Frontal. (2002) Comedy drama, starring David Duchovny and Julia Roberts. **1.40** BBC News. **3.35** Close.

**6.00** CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **9.25** Monk. (R) **9.30** Horrid Henry. (R) **9.40** Film: Clifford's Really Big Movie. (2005) Animated adventure, with the voice of John Ritter. **11.00** Film: Black Beauty. (1994) Family drama, starring Sean Bean. **12.35** ITV News; Weather. **12.40** You've Been Framed! (R) **1.10** You've Been Framed! (R) **1.40** The X Factor Final. (R) **3.40** Midsomer Murders. (R) **5.40** The Unforgettable Larry Grayson. (R)

**6.05** Regional Programmes. **6.15** ITV News; Weather. **6.30** The Cube. A martial arts expert and a forklift truck driver take part.

**7.30** The X Factor Final Results. The two remaining acts compete for the X Factor crown live, before Dermot O'Leary reveals this year's champion. Plus, performances by more chart-topping stars. Last in the series.

**9.30** Text Santa: The Launch. Part one of two. Fundraising initiative, hosted by Philip Schofield and Christine Bleakley. **10.30** ITV News; Weather. **10.45** FILM: GoldenEye. (1995) Spy adventure, starring Pierce Brosnan.

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**1.10** The Zone: ITV News Headlines. **2.00** Motorsport UK. **2.50** Kojak. (R) **3.45** ITV Newsnight. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

**6.10** Sali Mali. (R) **6.15** The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** Triathlon. (R) **7.30** Adidas Terrex Coast to Coast. (R) **8.00** T4: One Tree Hill. (R) **8.55** T4: Hollyoaks. **11.25** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** T4: Shipwrecked: The Island. **1.30** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** T4: T4 Stars of 2011. **4.20** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **4.50** Deal or No Deal. **5.45** Film: Elf. (2003) Fantasy comedy, with Will Ferrell.

**7.35** Channel 4 News. **8.05** The Political Slot. **8.10** 4thought.tv. **8.15** Japan Tsunami: Caught on Camera. Amateur footage and eyewitness accounts of the disaster.

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**9.30** Black Mirror: 15 Million Merits. Dark satire set in a future reality where the only escape from a lifetime of physical drudgery is through a talent show. Starring Daniel Kaluuya and Rupert Everett.

**10.50** British Comedy Awards: The Nominations Show. Announcing the shortlists for this year's ceremony.

**12.00** Rhod Gilbert & the Cat That Looked Like Nicholas Lyndhurst. (R) **1.00** American Football Live. Dallas Cowboys v New York Giants (Kick-off 12.00pm). **4.45** Freesports on 4. (R) **5.15** Post Modern Pastimes. (R) **5.25** Countdown. (R)

**6.00** Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **6.35** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.50** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Igan Ogam. (R) **7.05** Roodbarb and Custard. (R) **7.10** The Milkshake! Show. **7.30** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.50** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.15** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.30** Angelina Ballerina. **8.50** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **9.15** The Mr Men Show. (R) **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Mist: Sheepdog Tales. (R) **10.00** Inside Hollywood. **10.15** Andre Rieu Live in Dublin. (R) **11.15** Ultimate Emergency Bikers. (R) **12.15** Ice Road Trucks: Deadliest Roads. (R) **1.15** Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) **2.15** Film: A Christmas Visitor. (2002) Drama, starring Reagan Pasternak. **4.00** Film: Christmas with the Kranks. (2004) Festive comedy, starring Jamie Lee Curtis and Tim Allen. **5.50** 5 News Weekend. **5.55** Film: Wyatt Earp. (1994) Western, starring Kevin Costner.

**9.30** FILM: Superbad. (2007) Teen comedy, with Jonah Hill and Michael Cera.

**11.50** FILM: South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut. (1999) Animated musical comedy, with the voices of Trey Parker and Matt Stone.

**1.25** SuperCasino. **4.00** Animal Rescue Squad. (R) **4.15** Nick's Quest. (R) **4.40** Divine Designs. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

**ITV2**  
**3.40** The Xtra Factor **5.00** Peter Andre: My Life **6.00** Holiday Showdown **7.00** Four of a Kind **8.00** The World's Best Diet **9.00** Grimefighters **9.30** The Xtra Factor **10.45** The Amy Winehouse Story **11.45** Perez Hilton Superfan: Lady Gaga

**ITV3**  
**2.35** Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of Four **4.45** The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes **5.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** Lewis **11.05** Hornblower

**ITV4**  
**1.00** Live Darts. The PDC Players Championship Finals. **5.00** 20 Football Games That Shook the World **6.00** 20 Football Transfers That Shook the World **7.00** Live Darts. The PDC Players Championship Finals. **11.00** Film: The Long Kiss Goodnight (1996)

**BBC THREE**  
**7.00** The Nearlyweds **8.00** The World's Strictest Parents **9.00** Gavin & Stacey **10.00** American Dad! **10.45** Family Guy **11.30** Him & Her

**BBC FOUR**  
**7.00** Churches: How to Read Them **7.30** Rosslyn Chapel: A Treasure in Stone **8.30** African Railway **9.30** Scrapheap Orchestra **11.00** Treasures of Chinese Porcelain

**E4**  
**3.00** Make It or Break It **4.55** Sorority Girls **6.00** Scrubs **7.00** Film: Scrooged (1988) **9.00** Rude Tube: Mashed 'n' Mixed. A countdown of 50 internet video mash-ups. **10.00** Misfits **11.05** Tool Academy

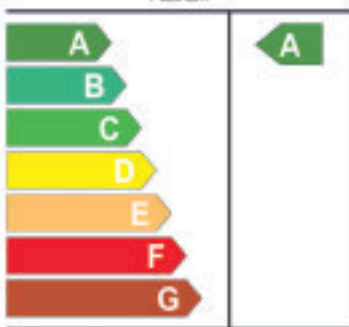
**FILM4**  
**3.00** Brief Encounter (1945) Romantic drama, with Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard. **4.40** Princess Mononoke (1997) Animated fantasy adventure, with the voice of Yoji Matsuda. **7.20** Bride Wars (2008) **9.00** Knowing (2009) Mystery thriller, starring Nicolas Cage. **11.20** White Noise: The Light (2006)

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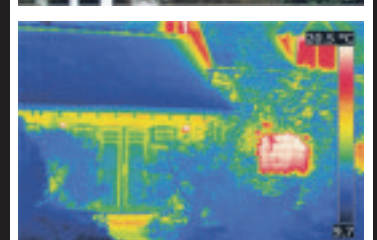


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## thechronicle

## Monday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Rip Off Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Noise Squad. 11.45 Cash in the Attic. (R) BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Inside Out. BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 How to Survive the Meltdown - Panorama. 9.00 Young Apprentice. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 A Question of Sport. 11.05 Outnumbered - The Christmas Special. (R) 11.45 The Graham Norton Show. (R) 12.35 Weatherview. 12.40 Sign Zone: Who Do You Think You Are? (R) 1.40 World's Most Dangerous Roads. (R) 2.40 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 3.10 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.35 The Pink Panther Show. (R) 12.00 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Coast. (R) 1.15 Trash to Cash. 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Coast. (R) 6.00 Celebrity Eggheads. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. 7.00 This World: Return of the Lost Boys of Sudan. 8.00 University Challenge. 9.30 MasterChef: The Professionals. 10.00 The X Factor...25 Years Ago: A Wonderland Special. 10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Mark Zuckerberg: Inside Facebook. (R) 12.20 BBC News.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 May the Best House Win. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Murder. She Wrote. (R) 5.00 Best Dish: The Chels. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Countrywide Kitchen: Stocking the Winter Larder. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 The Real Thumbs Up. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: We Own the Night. (2007) Premiere. Crime drama, starring Joaquin Phoenix. 12.40 The Zone. ITV News Headlines. 2.40 Champions League Weekly. 3.10 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 9.55 Beany's Restoration Nightmare. (R) 10.55 Heston's Christmas Feast. (R) 12.00 Drop Down Menu. 1.00 Film: Cocoon: The Return. (1989) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 The Food Hospital. A 47-year-old man receives shocking news about his health. 9.00 My Big Fat Gypsy Christmas. The yuletide season traveller-style. 10.00 This Is England '88. 11.10 Random Acts. 11.15 The Joy of Teen Sex. 12.15 UK & Ireland Poker Tour. 1.15 Sailing. 1.40 Offshore Academy. (R) 2.10 Beach Volleyball. 3.00 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 3.30 Blenheim Triathlon. (R) 3.55 Road to London 2012: That Paralympic Show. (R) 4.20 Scrapheap Challenge. (R) 5.15 Stephen Hawking's Universe. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gaby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Law & Order. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.10 Film: Snowman's Pass. (2004) Action adventure, starring Nicole Eggert. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 How Do They Do It? (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 The Gadget Show. 5 News at 9. 9.00 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. 10.00 Film: Hard Luck. (2006) Thriller, starring Wesley Snipes. 11.55 The World of Stupid Criminals. 12.25 Impossible? 1.20 SuperCasino. 3.55 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 Grey's Anatomy. 4.55 Rough Guide to Bang for Your Buck. (R) 5.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.35 HouseBusters. (R)

## Tuesday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Rip Off Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Noise Squad. 11.45 Cash in the Attic. (R) BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Holby City. 9.00 Death in Paradise. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather; National Lottery Results. 10.35 Inside Out. The Last Chapter? 11.40 Film: Heavenly Creatures. (1994) Fact-based drama, starring Kate Winslet. 1.15 Weatherview. 1.20 Sign Zone: Frozen Planet. (R) 2.20 The Story of Ireland. (R) 3.20 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 4.20 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.35 The Pink Panther Show. (R) 12.00 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Coast. (R) 1.15 Trash to Cash. 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Coast. (R) 6.00 Celebrity Eggheads. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. 7.00 Victorian Farm Christmas. (R) 8.00 MasterChef: The Professionals. 9.00 Money. 10.00 Life's Too Short. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Leonardo. (R) 12.20 The Company. (R) 1.55 BBC News. 4.20 Close.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 May the Best House Win. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Murder. She Wrote. (R) 5.00 Best Dish: The Chels. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Adventurer's Guide to Britain. 8.00 High Stakes. Big-money game show, hosted by Jeremy Kyle. Last in the series. 9.00 My Child's Not Perfect. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Rumor Has It. (2005) Romantic comedy, starring Jennifer Aniston and Kevin Costner. 12.20 The Zone. ITV News Headlines. 2.55 Kojak. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 9.55 Kirstie and Phil's Perfect Christmas. (R) 10.55 Christmas at River Cottage. (R) 12.00 Drop Down Menu. 1.00 Film: Local Hero. (1983) Comedy drama, starring Peter Riegert. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 The Food Hospital. A 47-year-old man receives shocking news about his health. 9.00 My Big Fat Gypsy Christmas. The yuletide season traveller-style. 10.00 This Is England '88. 11.10 Random Acts. 11.15 The Joy of Teen Sex. 12.15 UK & Ireland Poker Tour. 1.15 Sailing. 1.40 Offshore Academy. (R) 2.10 Beach Volleyball. 3.00 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 3.30 Blenheim Triathlon. (R) 3.55 Road to London 2012: That Paralympic Show. (R) 4.20 Scrapheap Challenge. (R) 5.15 Stephen Hawking's Universe. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gaby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Law & Order. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: Miami. (R) 3.10 Film: Noel. (2004) Drama, starring Susan Sarandon. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 How Do They Do It? (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 London: The Inside Story. The inner workings of Westminster Council. Last in the series. 9 News at 9. 9.00 CSI: Miami. A businessman gets caught up in a murderous game. 10.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 11.00 CSI: Miami. (R) 11.55 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 1.00 SuperCasino. 3.50 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.05 The Gadget Show. (R) 4.55 County Secrets. (R)

## Wednesday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Rip Off Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Noise Squad. 11.45 Cash in the Attic. (R) BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 The Impressions Show with Culshaw and Stephenson. 9.00 Motorway Cops. (R) 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Crimewatch Update. 10.45 Up in Flames: Mr Reeves and the Riot. 11.30 This Week. 12.15 Sking Weatherview. 12.20 Sign Zone: How to Survive the Meltdown - Panorama. (R) 12.50 Countryfile. (R) 1.45 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 2.45 Britain's Hidden Heritage. (R) 3.45 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 Daily Politics. 1.00 See Hear. 1.30 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Coast. (R) 6.00 Celebrity Eggheads. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. 7.00 Victorian Farm Christmas. (R) 8.00 MasterChef: The Professionals. The three finalists face their penultimate challenge. 9.00 Steve Jobs: Billion Dollar Hippy. The story of Steve Jobs' time in the Apple. 10.00 Class Dismissed. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Leonardo. (R) 12.20 The Company. (R) 1.55 BBC News. 3.55 Close.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 May the Best House Win. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Murder. She Wrote. (R) 5.00 Best Dish: The Chels. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Royal Variety Performance. 2011. Peter Kay hosts the event at the Lowry in Salford Quays. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: American Dream. (2006) Satirical comedy, starring Hugh Grant and Dennis Quaid. 12.30 The Zone. ITV News Headlines. 2.35 Film: The Jerk. (1979) Comedy, with Steve Martin. 4.10 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 9.55 Kirstie and Phil's Perfect Christmas. (R) 10.55 River Cottage Christmas. (R) 12.00 Drop Down Menu. 12.55 Film: Great Expectations. (1946) Drama, starring John Mills. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 A SuperScrimpers Christmas. Tips on having a frugal but fun festive holiday. 9.00 Jamie's Christmas with Bells On. 10.00 This Is England '88. 11.10 The Joy of Teen Sex. 12.10 Random Acts. 12.15 Music on 4: Live from Abbey Road. 1.00 Music on 4: The Album Chart Show. Spotlight. 1.15 Music on 4: Koko Bop: Christmas Special. 1.40 Film: The Ice Storm. (1997) Drama, starring Sigourney Weaver. 3.35 Stephen Hawking's Universe. (R) 4.55 Countdown. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.10 Mickey Mouse: Have a Laugh. 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gaby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Law & Order. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.10 Film: Farewell Mr Kringle. (2010) Premiere. Christmas drama, with Christine Taylor. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 6.55 Cars Toons. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 Live UEFA Europa League Football. Fulham v Odense BK (Kick-off 8.05pm). 10.15 Film: Blood and Bone. (2009) 12.15 Poker: The Big Game. 1.15 SuperCasino. 3.50 Meals in Moments. (R) 4.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.10 HouseBusters. (R)

## Thursday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Rip Off Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Noise Squad. 11.45 Cash in the Attic. (R) BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 The Manor Reborn. 9.00 Crimewatch. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Crimewatch Update. 10.45 Up in Flames: Mr Reeves and the Riot. 11.30 This Week. 12.15 Sking Weatherview. 12.20 Sign Zone: How to Survive the Meltdown - Panorama. (R) 12.50 Countryfile. (R) 1.45 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 2.45 Britain's Hidden Heritage. (R) 3.45 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Coast. (R) 1.15 Trash to Cash. 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Coast. (R) 6.00 Celebrity Eggheads. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. 7.00 Victorian Farm Christmas. (R) 8.00 MasterChef: The Professionals. The winner of the 2nd edition is announced. Last in the series. 9.00 Rev & Jay reader Nigel gets the chance to prove his worth. 9.30 Life's Too Short. Warwick throws a flat-warming party. 10.00 Frank Skinner's Opinionated. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Leonardo. (R) 12.20 The Company. (R) 1.55 BBC News.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 May the Best House Win. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Murder. She Wrote. (R) 5.00 Best Dish: The Chels. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Counting on Christmas: Tonight. 8.00 Emmerdale. Cain indicates he remembers who attacked him. 8.30 Coronation Street. Peter lies to Leanne before going to see Carla. 9.00 Without You. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Morgan's Life Stories: Peter Andre. (R) 11.35 A Night with Will Young. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.30 Counting on Christmas: Tonight. (R) 3.00 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 9.55 Kirstie and Phil's Perfect Christmas. (R) 10.55 River Cottage Christmas. (R) 12.00 Drop Down Menu. 12.55 Film: Oliver Twist. (1948) Charles Dickens' drama, starring Alec Guinness. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Kevin's Grand Design. 9.00 Living with the Amish. 10.00 This Is England '88. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Black Mirror: The National Anthem. (R) 12.10 Music on 4: Alex Zane Pops Out. 12.45 Music on 4: Inputoutput. 1.00 Film: Faintheart. (2008) Premiere. Romantic comedy, starring Eddie Marsan and Jessica Hynes. 2.30 Southland. 3.15 Happy Endings. 3.40 Japan's Tsunami: Caught on Camera. (R) 4.55 Unreported World. (R) 5.20 Countdown. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.10 Mickey Mouse: Have a Laugh. 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gaby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Law & Order. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.10 Film: The Christmas List. (1997) Fantasy drama, starring Mimi Rogers. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 6.55 Cars Toons. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 New Highland Emergency. 5 News Update. 8.00 Fairground Attractions; 5 News at 9. 9.00 The Mentalist. 10.00 It's All About Amy. 11.00 Police Interceptors. (R) 12.00 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 4.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

## Friday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Rip Off Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Noise Squad. 11.45 Cash in the Attic. (R) BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 The Two Ronnies Sketchbook. 9.00 Have I Got News for You. 9.30 Live at the Apollo. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Crimewatch Update. 10.45 Up in Flames: Mr Reeves and the Riot. 11.30 This Week. 12.15 Sking Weatherview. 12.20 Sign Zone: How to Survive the Meltdown - Panorama. (R) 12.50 Countryfile. (R) 1.45 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 2.45 Britain's Hidden Heritage. (R) 3.45 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Coast. (R) 1.15 Trash to Cash. 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Coast. (R) 6.00 Celebrity Eggheads. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. 7.00 Victorian Farm Christmas. (R) 8.00 MasterChef: The Professionals. The winner of the 2nd edition is announced. Last in the series. 9.00 Rev & Jay reader Nigel gets the chance to prove his worth. 9.30 Life's Too Short. Warwick throws a flat-warming party. 10.00 Frank Skinner's Opinionated. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Leonardo. (R) 12.20 The Company. (R) 1.55 BBC News.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 May the Best House Win. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Murder. She Wrote. (R) 5.00 Best Dish: The Chels. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Wild Britain with Ray Mears. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 The Big Quiz. 10.00 Coronation Street v Emmerdale. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Unforgiven. (1992) Western, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood. 1.00 The Zone. ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Film: Columbo: Ashes to Ashes. (1998) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk and Patrick McGowan. 4.30 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.05 Sali Mali. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 9.55 Kirstie and Phil's Perfect Christmas. (R) 10.55 A SuperScrimpers Christmas. (R) 12.00 Drop Down Menu. 1.15 Film: Miracle on 34th Street. (1947) Christmas drama, starring Edmund Gwenn. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Come Dine with Me. 9.00 British Comedy Awards 2011. 11.10 Chris Moyles' Quiz Night. 11.55 Sean Lock: Lookpieda Live. (R) 1.00 Music on 4: The Crush. 1.55 Random Acts. 2.00 Comedy Lab: The Warm-Up Guy. 2.25 My Name Is Earl. (R) 3.10 Happy Endings. 3.35 CSI Elsewhere. (R) 4.25 Brothers & Sisters. (R) 5.10 Countdown. (R) 5.55 Sali Mali. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.10 Mickey Mouse: Have a Laugh. 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gaby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Law & Order. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.20 Film: Single Santa Seeks Mrs Claus. (2014) Comedy, starring Cristin Bernard. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 6.55 Cars Toons. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 Fifth Gear. 5 News Update. 8.00 Ice Road Truckers: Deadliest Roads. 5 News at 9. 9.00 Film: Speed. (1994) Action thriller, starring Keanu Reeves. 11.25 Comedy Kings: Best of Just for Laughs. 11.55 Inside Hollywood. 12.00 SuperCasino. 4.05 Motorsport Mundial. 4.30 Film Gear. (R) 4.55 County Secrets. (R)

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# Home of Property

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The top property guide for Walsall, Brownhills, Aldridge, Willenhall and Bloxwich

## Individual design features lift home

**A** DECEPTIVELY spacious and individually designed four-bedroom detached family home near Walsall is on the market priced at £229,950. The house is in Burntwood Road, Norton Canes, a sought after residential area of the village convenient for local facilities.

The accommodation briefly comprises canopy porch, reception hall, cloakroom with WC, spacious lounge, dining room, L-shaped fitted kitchen/breakfast/sitting/conservatory, side lobby/utility area, four bed-

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

rooms, en suite shower room and family bathroom. Outside are well stocked gardens and parking for three or four cars, and the property benefits from double glazing and gas central heating.

The cloakroom has a white suite incorporating low flush WC and hand basin, while the dining room – 11ft 1in by 16ft 1in – has double doors to the lounge which measures 11ft 2in by 19ft 8in and has a limestone feature fire surround with natural flame gas fire and double doors to the kitchen/breakfast/sitting/conservatory area.

It incorporates a range of units with stainless steel tops incorporating inset stainless steel twin bowl sink with mixer tap, stainless steel work surface, soft close drawers, wall cupboards, integrated five burner gas hob, oven hood/extractor, plus electric built-in oven, integrated fridge and freezer.

### Panelled

In addition, there are an integrated automatic dishwasher, feature central island unit with beech work surface and utensil drawers with glass top work surface, and French windows to the rear garden.

The side lobby/utility area has plumbing for automatic washing machine.

On the first floor bedroom one has a range of built-in wardrobes and a fully tiled en suite shower room with white suite incorporating pedestal hand basin, low-flush WC and shower cubicle with shower mixer taps over.

There are three more bedrooms and a bathroom with white suite incorporating panelled bath with shower attachment, pedestal hand basin and low-flush WC.

The well-stocked gardens include lawn, ornamental trees and shrubs, paved terrace, gravelled areas and side paved/gated pedestrian access.

For more details contact Boot & Son on 01543 505 454.



Well-stocked gardens at Burntwood Road include lawn, ornamental trees, shrubs, paved patio and gravelled area



Boot & Son is marketing 166 Burntwood Road, Norton Canes, for £229,950

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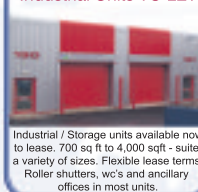
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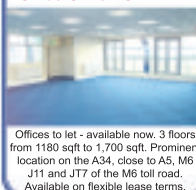
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**Towers Business Park**  
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**Kimberley Business Park**  
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**Bridgtown Business Centre**  
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**Birch Business Park**  
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**P R I T C H A R D G R O U P**



# Four bedrooms and loads of character

A WELL-presented four-bedroom detached house in Foxtail Way, Wimblesbury, is for sale with a price guide of £218,500.

With gas central heating and double glazing throughout, the accommodation briefly comprises lounge, dining room, guest wc, breakfast kitchen, conservatory, four bedrooms, en-suite and family bathroom.

The lounge is 14ft 5in by 12ft, the dining room 12ft 9in by 7ft 10in and the breakfast kitchen,

walsallchronicle  
@expressand.star.co.uk

equipped with a range of wall and base mounted units, preparation work surfaces over, sink and drainer unit with mixer tap over and space for appliances, measures a generous 15ft 7in by 7ft 9in.

## Driveway

The conservatory, which opens on to the lounge, is 11ft 5in by 9ft 2in.

On the first floor bedroom one measures 14ft

by 11ft 1in and has two fitted wardrobes and an en-suite comprising shower cubicle, wash hand basin and wc.

There are three other bedrooms and a bathroom with shower cubicle, bath, wash hand basin and wc.

There is a good sized rear garden with lawn and decked patio, with garage and driveway to the front.

Call estate agent Jayman on 01543 505515 for further details or to view the property, which is just a few miles north of Walsall.



This detached home in Foxtail Way, Wimblesbury, has an asking price of £218,500 through estate agent Jayman

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Well Presented Three Bed Detached, Lounge/Diner, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Modern Fitted Bathroom, En-suite, Driveway, Garage, Rear Garden.  
**£186,950 ONO**



**Edinburgh Drive, Willenhall**  
Spacious Three Bedroom Semi, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Separate W/C, Utility Room, Ground Floor Bedroom, Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom, Carport, Front & Rear Gardens.  
**£169,995**



**Blenheim Road, Willenhall**  
Three/Four Bedroom Spacious Semi, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Separate Shower/WC, Fitted Bathroom, Driveway, Rear Garden, Potential Annexe.  
**£155,000 O.I.R.O**



**Watkins Road, Willenhall**  
Spacious Three/Four Bedroom Semi, Large Kitchen/Diner, Spacious Lounge, Dining Room, Luxury Jacuzzi Bathroom Suite, Garage Conversion, Jacuzzi Bath, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Driveway.  
**£152,250**



**Woodside Way, Short Heath**  
Extended Three/Four Bedroom Semi, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom, Utility, W/C, Garage Conversion, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Driveway.  
**£149,995 ONO**



**Ada Wrighton Close, Willenhall**  
Three Bedroom Link Detached House, Entrance Hall, Large Through Lounge/Diner, W/C, Fitted Kitchen, Utility, Shower Room, Garage For Storage Only, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Driveway.  
**£157,995**



**Radstock Road, Willenhall**  
Three Bedroom Semi, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom, Two Reception, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Driveway, Garage.  
**£144,995 ONO**



**Littleton Rd, New Invention**  
A Well Presented Two Bedroom Mid Terrace House On The Popular Forest Gate Estate Having Through Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Shower Room/WC, Utility Area, Two Double Bedrooms, Fitted Bathroom, C/Heating & D/Glazing.  
**£94,995**



**Oakridge Dr, Cheslyn Hay**  
Well Presented Two Bedroom Terraced, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom, Conservatory, Fully Tiled Shower Room, Rear Garden, Large Corner Plot.  
**£129,995**



**Kenilworth Crescent, Walsall**  
Modern Three Bedroom Semi, Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom, En-suite, Conservatory, Garage, Driveway, Rear Garden.  
**£129,995 ONO**



**Shepherds Drive, Willenhall**  
Extended Two/Three Bedroom Semi, Large Feature Conservatory, Breakfast Kitchen Extension, W/C, Office/Study, Fitted Bathroom, Dining Room, Summer House/Annexe, Front And Rear Gardens.  
**£119,995**



**Fawley Close, Willenhall**  
Two Bedroom Semi, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Rear Garden, Large Plot, Potential To Extend STPP.  
**£118,500 ONO**



**Hawthorne Place, Bentley**  
Well Presented Two Bedroom Semi, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Separate W/C, Fitted Bathroom, Utility Room, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Off Road Parking.  
**£98,995**



**Ashmore Lake Rd, Willenhall**  
Large Two Bedroom Traditional Semi, Two Reception Rooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Large Rear Garden.  
**£94,995**



**Bewley Rd, Willenhall**  
A Extended Three Bed Semi Detached Property Comprising Of: Large Open Plan Lounge/Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Fitted Bathroom, Garage, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Rear Garden.  
**£575 PCM**



**Waterside Close, Parkfields**  
Three Storey Modern Semi, Four Bedrooms, Two En-Suites, Kitchen Diner, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage, Must Be Viewed.  
**£695 PCM**



**Lambeth Road, Bilston**  
Spacious Three Bedroom Mid Terrace, Large Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Off Road Parking, Large Rear Garden.  
**£525 PCM**



**Dartmouth Close, Walsall**  
Two Bedroom End Terraced In Cul-De-Sac, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Fitted Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Front And Rear Gardens.  
**£475 PCM**



**Fairview Road, Wednesfield**  
Spacious Modern Two Bedroom First Floor Flat, New Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Fitted Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Near To New Cross Hospital.  
**£475 PCM**



**Penn Road, Wolverhampton**  
A Large Two Bedroom Flat Having Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Kitchen, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Landlord Is Willing To Negotiate On Deposit.  
**£425 PCM**



**Birchcoppice Gdns, Willenhall**  
A Well Presented One Bedroom Ground Floor Flat Located On The Popular Furzebank Estate, Having Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Shower Room, D/Glazing, Electric Heating, Private Rear Garden, Great Location.  
**£395 PCM**

**Willenhall 01902 606595**



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# The vinyl countdown on easy-fit flooring

SHEET vinyl is a cheaper alternative to a tiled floor and is also easier to fit. It's water resistant and easy to clean, making it perfect for kitchens and bathrooms, says Julia Gray.

Follow these top tips when preparing to lay vinyl.

You may think that vinyl flooring is the poor relation to a tiled floor, but there are some brilliant vinyls.

Check out Floorstrip 98 Stripes, a striking black and taupe barcode-style striped design that's smart, contemporary and currently reduced to just £10.49 per sq m at Carpetright ([www.carpetright.co.uk](http://www.carpetright.co.uk)). It would really transform a room.

Before fitting your chosen vinyl, you need to prepare the sub-floor.

### Hammer

It should be clean, dry and as stable and flat as possible.

If the sub-floor's concrete, use cement mortar to fill any cracks and holes. An uneven concrete floor can also be improved with a self-levelling floor compound, available from DIY stores.

If the sub-floor's floorboards, knock down any protruding nails with a hammer and nail punch. Screw down any loose boards, checking first that there aren't cables or pipes underneath (you may want to screw them all down to prevent movement).

When the boards are secure, cover them with hardboard, which first needs to be acclimatised to the room it's going to be laid in.

Do this by brushing water onto the rough side of the boards and leaving them stacked flat for a couple of days with the rough sides touching. You should also leave your roll of vinyl in a warm room for at least a day to make it easier to lay.

Fix the hardboard (rough side up) with 19mm annular nails, ensuring that the heads don't stick up and, again, that you don't hammer through any cables or pipes underneath.




**If the sub-floor is concrete, improve the surface with self-levelling compound**




**Lay a sub-floor ready before vinyl**      **A natural wood finish from Vinyl**

There are plenty of colours to choose

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# HOMES AND FINANCIAL

## FOR SALE

**292 Harden Road, Leamore, Walsall, WS3 1RQ**  
MODERN DETACHED HOUSE



- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Front and Rear Garden
- Garage ● Driveway

**£154,950**

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**Chatha House, 18 Lichfield Street, Walsall WS1 1TJ**

**PRESTIGIOUS OFFICE BUILDING WITH PARKING IN TOWN CENTRE**

- Impressive double fronted building set behind ornamental railings and flower beds and high quality slabbed area
- Entrance Lobby
- 19 Offices
- Reception
- Kitchen
- 3 Store Rooms
- 4 WC and disabled WC
- Cellar



**£45,000 PER ANNUM**

## TO LET

**70 All Saints Road, Darlaston WS10 9LL**  
MODERN EXTENDED SEMI-DETACHED



- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Dining Room
- Two Bathrooms
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Driveway

**£650 PCM**

## TO LET

**27 St Austell Road, Walsall**

**MODERN DETACHED GARAGE**

- Three Bedrooms
- Reception Hall
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- New Fitted Kitchen
- Utility Area
- New Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- New Gas Central Heating
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Front Garden ● Large Driveway ● Garage



**£695 PCM**

## TO LET

**48 Cemetery Road, Willenhall WV13 1DQ**  
MID TERRACED HOUSE

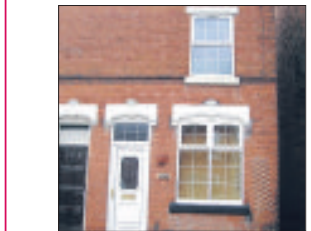


- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- New Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden

**£495 PCM**

## TO LET

**104 West Bromwich Road, Caldmore WS1 3HW**  
END TERRACED HOUSE



- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Front and Rear Gardens

**£475 PCM**

## TO LET

**34 Valley Road, Bloxwich, Walsall WS3 3EU**  
MID-TERRACED HOUSE



- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Gas Central Heated
- Double Glazed Windows
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Driveway

**£475 pcm**

## TO LET

**17 Wellington Place, Willenhall WV13 3AB**  
MID-TERRACED HOUSE



- Two Double Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- New Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden

**£475 PCM**

## TO LET

**78 Lord Street, Palfrey, Walsall WS1 4DP**  
END-TERRACED HOUSE



- Three Bedrooms
- Front Room
- Living Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden

**£475 PCM**

## TO LET

**10 Morris Avenue, Bentley, Walsall WS2 0EB**  
EXTENDED SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE



- Three Good Bedrooms
- Front Reception Room
- Rear Living Room
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Dining Room
- Downstairs Shower Room
- Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Full Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Windows and Doors

**£550 PCM**

## TO LET

**19 Exeter Place, Allumwell, Walsall WS2 9UQ**  
SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE



- Three Bedrooms
- Large Lounge
- Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Downstairs WC
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Driveway and Rear Garden

**£600 PCM**

## TO LET

**64 Deepmore Avenue, Reedswood, Walsall WS2 8SF**  
SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE



- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Downstairs WC
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Driveway

**£525 PCM**

## TO LET

**70 Remington Road, Beechdale, Walsall WS2 7EQ**  
MODERN SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE



- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Area
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Full Gas Central Heating
- Driveway
- Rear Garden

**£450 PCM**

## TO LET

**23 Waterfront Way, Saddlers Wharf, Walsall WS2 9NH**  
1ST FLOOR APARTMENT



- Two Double Bedrooms (master with en suite)
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Security Intercom
- Electric Storage Heaters
- Off Road Allocated Parking Space

**£495 PCM**

**Tel: 01922 611800**

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**7 Queens Parade  
Bloxwich  
Walsall  
WS3 2EX  
01922 711444**



**Bloxwich  
Fishley Close**  
● Five Bedroom Detached  
● Dining Room●Lounge  
● Extended Kitchen●Utility  
● Cloakroom W.C.●Conservatory  
● Family Bathroom●Garage●Driveway  
**Offers in the Region of £229,950**



**NEW**  
**Bloxwich  
Stafford Close**  
● Three Bedroom Detached  
● Lounge●Fitted Kitchen●Bathroom  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Off Road Parking  
● Gas Central Heating & D.Glazing  
**In the Region of £220,000**



**Bloxwich  
Stoney Lane**  
● Four Bed Detached  
● Two Reception rooms  
● Downstairs Shower Room  
● En-suite Bedroom●Large Driveway  
● Garage●Landscaped Rear Garden  
**Offers in excess of £210,000**



**Essington  
Albany Grove**  
● Four Bedroom Detached  
● Two Reception Rooms  
● Extended Kitchen●Conservatory  
● Family Bathroom●Front & Rear Gardens  
● Carport & Garage●Driveway  
**Offers in excess of £205,000**



**Bloxwich  
Field Road**  
● Four Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Fully Re-Furbed●Two Reception Rooms  
● Re-Fitted Kitchen●Conservatory  
● Utility Room/W.C.●Family Bathroom  
● Rear Garden●Garages & Workshop  
**Offers in excess of £200,000**



**Walsall  
Birmingham Road**  
● Five Bedroom Victorian Family Home  
● Two Reception Rooms  
● Extended Kitchen●Diner  
● Bathroom●Block Paved Driveway  
● Rear Landscaped Garden  
**Offers in excess £199,950**



**Willenhall  
Essington Road**  
● Four Bed Three Storey End-Terrace  
● Double Glazing  
● Central Heating  
● Lounge/Dining Room  
● Utility/Cloakroom W.C.  
**Offers in excess of £199,950**



**Bloxwich  
Stoney Lane**  
● Traditional Three Bedroom Semi  
● Two Reception Rooms  
● Extended to Rear●Garage  
● Extensive Mature Rear Garden  
● Driveway Parking●NO UPWARD CHAIN  
**In the Region of £179,950**



**Pelsall  
Windrush Close**  
● Three Storey Three Bed Town House  
● Fitted Kitchen●Lounge/Diner  
● En-Suite●Family Bathroom  
● Separate Garage●Allocated parking  
● Enclosed Rear Garden  
**In the Region of £141,500**



**Walsall  
Harness Close**  
● Three Bedroom Link-Detached  
● Lounge●Kitchen/Diner  
● Family Bathroom  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Garage & Driveway●NO CHAIN  
**Offers in excess of £135,000**



**Bloxwich  
Stoney Lane**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge●Kitchen●Family Bathroom  
● Double Glazing●Gas Central Heating  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Detached Garage  
**In the Region of £124,950**



**Bloxwich  
Glemesgles Road**  
● Two Bedroom Terrace  
● Lounge●Kitchen/Diner  
● Family Bathroom●Double Glazing  
● Central Heating●Front Driveway  
● Off Road Parking●Rear Garden  
**In the Region of £119,950**



**Bloxwich  
Well Lane**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge●Kitchen/Diner  
● Family Bathroom●Off Road Parking  
● Front & Rear Gardens●Conservatory  
● Central Heating & Double Glazing  
**Offers in excess of £115,000**



**Bloxwich  
Mulberry Road**  
● Three Bedroom End-Terrace  
● Lounge●Kitchen/Diner  
● Cloakroom W.C.●Conservatory  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Gas Central Heating●Double Glazing  
**In the Region of £114,950**



**Walsall  
Dalby Road**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge●Cloakroom W.C.  
● Kitchen/Diner●Family Bathroom  
● Garage & Off Road Parking  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
**Offers in excess of £105,000**



**Bloxwich  
High Street**  
● Three Bedroom End-Terrace  
● Two Reception Rooms●Kitchen/Diner  
● Family Bathroom●Front & Rear Gardens  
● Garage with Off Road Parking  
● Gas Central Heating●Double Glazing  
**Offers in excess of £104,950**



**Bloxwich  
Harrison Street**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Two Reception Rooms  
● Fitted Kitchen●Double Glazing  
● Ground Floor Bathroom  
● Gas Central Heating●Rear Garden  
**In the Region £99,950**



**Walsall  
Smith Road**  
● Two Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge●Kitchen●Downstairs W.C.  
● Family Bathroom●Rear Garden  
● Majority D.Glazing●Central Heating  
● Front garden with Off Road Parking  
**Offers in excess of £95,000**



**REDUCED**  
**Bloxwich  
Beeches Road**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Entrance Porch  
● Lounge  
● Fitted Kitchen  
● Sun Room  
● Family Bathroom  
● Majority D.Glazed  
● Central Heating  
● Gardens  
● Off Road Parking  
**In the Region of £99,950**



**Bloxwich  
West Street**  
● Three Bedroom End-Terrace  
● Two Reception Rooms  
● Fitted Kitchen●First Floor W.C.  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
● D.Glazing●Gas Central Heating  
**Offers in excess of £90,000**



**Bloxwich  
Bell Tower Close, Heritage Gate**  
● Two, Three and Four Bed Properties  
● Open Plan Lounge/Diner & Kitchen  
● Bathroom●Allocated Parking  
● Secure Communal Entrance  
● 10 Year NHBC Warranty  
**From £84,995**



**Willenhall  
Mitre Close**  
● Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace  
● Lounge/Diner●Kitchen  
● Side Passage●Utility  
● Family Bathroom  
● Front & Rear Gardens●NO CHAIN  
**In the Region of £89,950**



**Bloxwich  
Field Road**  
● Two Bedroom Terrace  
● Reception/Dining Room  
● Lounge●Fitted Kitchen  
● Family Bathroom●Central Heating  
● Double Glazing●Rear Garden  
**In the Region of £88,000**



**Bloxwich  
Harrison Close**  
● Three Bedroom Terrace  
● Entrance Porch●Lounge  
● Kitchen/Diner●Family Bathroom  
● Majority D.Glazing●Gas Central Heating  
● Front & Rear Gardens●No Chain  
**Fixed Price of £87,000**



**Bloxwich  
Church Place**  
● Three Bedroom End Terrace  
● Lounge●Dining Room  
● Fitted Kitchen●Office/Study/Utility  
● Family Bathroom●Gardens  
● Secure Off Road Parking  
**In the Region of £87,000**



**SOLD**  
**Bloxwich  
Hollands Road**  
● Three Bedroom End-Terrace  
● Two Reception Rooms  
● Two Family Bathrooms  
● Utility Room●Loft Room  
● Off Road Parking  
**Offers in excess of £85,000**



**Bloxwich  
Bell Tower Close, Heritage Gate**  
● Two, Three and Four Bed Properties  
● Open Plan Lounge/Diner & Kitchen  
● Bathroom●Allocated Parking  
● Secure Communal Entrance  
● 10 Year NHBC Warranty  
**From £84,995**



**Bloxwich  
Archer Road**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge●Kitchen●Kitchen  
● Double Glazing●Gas Central Heating  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Off Road Parking●NO CHAIN  
**Offers in excess of £82,000**



**Bloxwich  
Mulberry Place**  
● Three Bedroom Terrace  
● Front Reception Room  
● Lounge●Kitchen●Bathroom  
● Double Glazing●Gas Central Heating  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
**In the Region of £79,950**



**NEW**  
**Bloxwich  
Henley Close**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge●Kitchen●Family Bathroom  
● Integral Garage with Off Road Parking  
● Double Glazing●Gas Central Heating  
● Rear Garden●NO CHAIN  
**In the Region of £79,950**



**SOLD**  
**Bloxwich  
Cleeve Road**  
● Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace  
● Lounge●Dining Room  
● Kitchen●Family Bathroom  
● Separate W.C.●Front & Rear Gardens  
● Off Road Parking  
**In the Region £74,950**



**Bloxwich  
Buxton Road**  
● Two Bedroom Ground Floor Flat  
● Lounge●Fitted Kitchen  
● Shower Room●Electric Storage Heating  
● Double Glazing  
● Communal Grounds  
**Offers in excess of £55,000**

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**Bloxwich Road South  
Willenhall**



- 5 x Brand new apartments
- UPVC double & triple glazing
- Allocated parking spaces
- Family bathroom

OFFERS AROUND: **£75,000**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Delamere Road  
Willenhall**



- Well Presented Semi-Detached
- 3 Good Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- Upvc Double Glazing

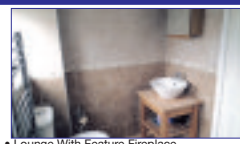
OFFERS AROUND: **£139,950**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Willenhall  
Broadmeadows Close**



- 3 Bedroom Detached House
- No Upward Chain
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

Viewing 01902 633323



- Lounge With Feature Fireplace
- Fitted Kitchen
- Driveway
- Single Garage

OFFERS AROUND: **£124,950**

**Dryden Close  
Willenhall**



- Spacious Terrace Home
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- Upvc Double Glazing

OFFERS AROUND: **£89,950**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Willenhall  
7 Bloxwich Road South**



- Brand New Apartments
- Upvc Double & Triple Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Allocated parking spaces

OFFERS AROUND: **£75,000**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Walsall  
Chetwynd Close**



- 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached
- 1015 mtrs away from town centre with easy bus access
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Lounge With Feature Fireplace

OFFERS AROUND: **£107,000**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Wolverhampton  
Fennere Close**



- Extended, improved semi detached
- 4 bedrooms (master with shower cubicle)
- UPVC double glazing
- Gas central heating

Viewing 01902 633323



- Rear garden
- Re-fitted bathroom
- Re-fitted kitchen
- Spacious lounge

OFFERS AROUND: **£169,995**

**Wolverhampton  
High Hill**



- Substantial Detached Bungalow
- Sought After Location Overlooking Fields
- 3 Bedrooms
- In Need of Upgrading

Viewing 01902 633323



- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Entrance Porch and Hall
- 18ft Living Room
- Dining Room and Office

OFFERS AROUND: **£275,000**

**Kennedy Crescent  
Darlston**



- Well Presented 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Ideally Located for Bilston & Darlston Towns
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing (as specified)
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: **£109,995**  
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

**Uplands Avenue  
Willenhall**



- Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- 1015 mtrs away from town centre with easy bus access
- Central Heating & Partial Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain

OFFERS AROUND: **£120,000**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Chaucer Avenue  
Willenhall**



- Modern Semi-Detached
- Deceptively Spacious
- Central Heating & Double Glazing

OFFERS AROUND: **£124,950**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Properties Sold  
This Month  
So Far...**

**pauldubberley**  
the estate agent  
**SOLD**

**Ingledew Close  
Walsall**



- Well Presented Semi-Detached
- 3 Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- Upvc Double Glazing

OFFERS AROUND: **£124,950**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Bilston  
Strathern Drive**



- 3 Storey End Townhouse
- 3 Bedrooms
- Upvc Double Glazing

OFFERS AROUND: **£149,995**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Willenhall  
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- 6 x Brand new home
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- Upvc Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

OFFERS AROUND: **£92,950**  
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**Waverley Road  
Darlston**



- 3 Bedroom Mid Terrace
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- No Upward Chain
- 2 Reception Rooms

OFFERS AROUND: **£89,995**  
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**Fraser Street  
Bilston**



- 2 Bedroom Mid Terrace House
- No Upward Chain
- Gas Central Heating
- Upvc Double Glazing

OFFERS AROUND: **£64,950**  
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**Queen Street  
Wednesbury**



- Modern Extended Detached
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- Central Heating & Part Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain

OFFERS AROUND: **£155,000**  
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**Darlston Road  
Wednesbury**



- A Great Investment Opportunity
- 2 Bedroom Butt Detached Home
- In Need of General Upgrade
- No Upward Chain

OFFERS AROUND: **£69,995**  
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**Noose Lane  
Willenhall**



- Extended Semi-Detached
- 2 Double Bedrooms with Fitted Wardrobes
- Recently Refurbished
- New Double Glazing and Central Heating

OFFERS AROUND: **£112,500**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Bilston  
Grafton Place**



- Well Presented Detached House
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Porch & Reception Hall
- Lounge & Lounge/Dining Room

Viewing 01902 633323



- Conservatory
- Kitchen & Side Veranda/Utility
- Ground Floor Shower Room
- Three Bedrooms

OFFERS AROUND: **£159,995**

**Eaton Rise  
Willenhall**



- Extended Detached Bungalow
- Generous Corner Plot
- 3 Bedrooms
- Adjoining 3ft Annex

OFFERS AROUND: **£179,995**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Bilston  
Lees Terrace**



- In New Free Standing Bungalow
- 2 Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain

OFFERS AROUND: **£59,950**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Glebe Road  
Willenhall**



- Well Presented Semi-Detached
- 3 Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- Majority Upvc Double Glazed

OFFERS AROUND: **£112,500**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Bilston  
Green Lanes**



- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- No Upward Chain (where Specified)
- Gas Central Heating

OFFERS AROUND: **£127,000**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Goscote Place  
Walsall**



- Spacious Terrace Home
- 4 Bedrooms
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

OFFERS AROUND: **£110,000**  
Viewing: 01902 633323

**Victoria Street  
Willenhall**



- 3 Bedroom Terrace House
- Gas Central Heating
- No Upward Chain
- Wealth of Period Features

OFFERS OVER: **£85,000**  
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**Temple Road  
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- Double Glazing & Central Heating (where specified)
- No Upward Chain

OFFERS AROUND: **£52,500**  
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- No Upward Chain
- Gas Central Heating

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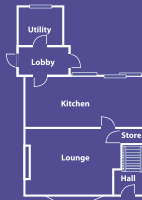


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# MOTING NEWS AND REVIEWS

# CHRONICLE

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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

## Sporty car here now with a quicker one to follow

IT'S NEVER easy making a sporty car sound enticing when there's an even sportier one on the horizon.

And it's not as though Ford is hiding news of its properly hot Focus. The second bullet point in the news release from the company tells the world that the sizzling ST arrives some time in 2012 with 250 willing horses under its bonnet.

Which is rather more than the current warm hatch Ford, called Zetec S and packing a smaller punch.

### Insurance

Ford must be hoping this one's inevitably lower performance will be more than made up for by inevitably lower bills for purchase, insurance and fuel costs.

This now available car was specially developed for Britain, where we like a sporty look to our motors. Ford thinks it might sell 6,000 a year.

In fact, most Zetec S models are simply a mild cosmetic makeover of the existing (non-S) models, with a sports styling kit, bigger wheels and a stiffened suspension.

By Ian Donaldson

Oh, and alloy-look pedals, rear LED rear lights and a button to start the engine, not a boring old ignition key.

You'll pay a £1,250 premium over the less racy-looking Zetec for the changes, where it's possible to compare like with like.

Dig deeper, though and you find the Zetec S debuting a more powerful (179bhp) turbocharged petrol engine and with a not inconsiderable price tag of £20,495.

The new range starts at £18,745 for a 1.6 petrol, and tops out with the £22,595 diesel with a potent 2.0 litres.

But it's the petrol version tested here that's likely to set an enthusiast's blood moving a little faster.

The on-paper performance figures (138mph, 0-62mph in 7.9 seconds) promise a car that ought to feel eager and responsive, if not downright fast.

Surprise, surprise, that's precisely how it seems on the road.

There's definitely space for a Focus road rocket in the near future but until that time this version of the

Zetec S will do pretty well.

It will certainly answer all the experts who reckoned the latest Focus was beautifully built, quiet and comfortable but lacking in the sheer joy of driving that all the previous models had in spades.

The new car is still a comfy way to munch miles and has the elusive quality common to most Fords of recent times (and surprisingly rare in rivals) of simply being good to drive, however modest the engine doing the work.

Over a not very demanding test route my car showed 37mpg on the trip computer.

### Optimistic

Not bad, if miles behind the 47mpg recorded in the official Euro test.

That's the figure that has to be quoted by law and that usually proves wildly optimistic.

Trying a car with an existing diesel engine (2.0 litres, 161bhp, £21,345) moved the trip meter to 47mpg.

But the car did not ride as well as its faster, petrol powered sibling. On the other hand it still felt pretty potent, though, and needed fewer gear changes.

If you want (much) better



The Zetec clocked up 37mpg – not bad, but way behind the 47mpg in the official test

economy from your Focus you will be able to buy one late in 2012 with an improbably small 1.0 litre engine and a mere three cylinders.

It sounds intriguing – let's hope

that it shows how the clever application of conventional mechanicals (not a booster electric motor in sight) still has the potential to deliver those cherished improvements in fuel

savings. Don't bet against it.

In the meantime, this latest version of the Focus makes an already impressive car usefully better still.

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**ACCOUNTS / WAGES CLERK** to assist with running purchase / sales ledger. Preferably having experience of Sage systems, payroll and other accounts / clerical duties. Estimated 15 - 20 hours per week, middle day / afternoons Monday to Thursday preferred but flexible. Please reply with full CV to Company Accountant, Cooke Brothers, Northgate, Aldridge, Walsall WS9 8TL.

**hair & beauty**

**THE FS ACADEMY** are recruiting Hair & Beauty part time tutors to work in the Walsall area. Contact Carl 07780 12808 or email: csciliano42@aol.com

**nursing & carers**

**CARE WORKERS** urgently required in all areas of Walsall and Sandwell areas. No experience necessary as full training will be given. Driving licence and own transport essential. For more details please call 0121 500 1818

**HARMONY CARE** is interested in recruiting people to work in the community with vulnerable adults. Car driver is essential. Salary is £17k+ based upon 40 hours plus 2 sleep in a week. If you are interested please call on 01922 514 008. Harmony care is an equal opportunities employer

**part time - general**

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Voyage provides personalised support and care for people with learning disabilities; autism; head and spinal injuries; neurological needs and other complex conditions. We have the following exciting vacancy in the **Wolverhampton & Walsall area**.

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(Ref: 5800)

**Salary £36,778.14 per annum. Full Time, 37.5 hours a week. Excellent employee benefits including: 33 days annual leave, company car/ car allowance, Life Assurance, access to childcare vouchers, sick pay and pension.**

Leading and developing a portfolio of services, you will provide professional expertise to your team of Managers. Commercially focussed and able to offer guidance and advice, you should be committed to quality assurance and to developing and expanding Voyage Options, directing and encouraging your managers to identify suitable opportunities to provide support in the local community.

A clear understanding of the learning disability sector is required along with experience of liaising with local authorities and an extensive working knowledge of relevant care standards/legislation. You will be motivated with the ability to maintain close links with professionals and possess well developed financial and people management skills. You will also have sound business acumen, excellent organisational skills and the ability to manage change.

**Complete your application online via the 'staff vacancies' section of our website - www.voyagecare.com Alternatively, for a postal application please leave your name and address, quoting the job reference no: 01543 437049 (24 hour Recruitment Hotline).**

For further information, please call Louise McKeown on 01543 437367.

Closing date for completed applications: 15th December 2011.

Interviews will be held on Wednesday 4th January 2012.



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# experts

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## property

## accommodation to let

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0121 568 7097

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plying particulars of premises to  
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(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

**Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control**

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council.

Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online [www.walsall.gov.uk/planning](http://www.walsall.gov.uk/planning)

Representations can be made online, email: [planning@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:planning@walsall.gov.uk) or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG.

Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice.

**Please note:** Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

**Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990.** (Section 73, Applications Affecting a Conservation Area and/or a Listed Building)

**11/037/AD**  
Mainnet  
FOR: 1 vinyl cashpoint surround advertisement  
AT: 18 LEICESTER BUILDINGS, BRIDGE STREET, WALSALL, WS1 1EJ

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Second hand spares off the shelf

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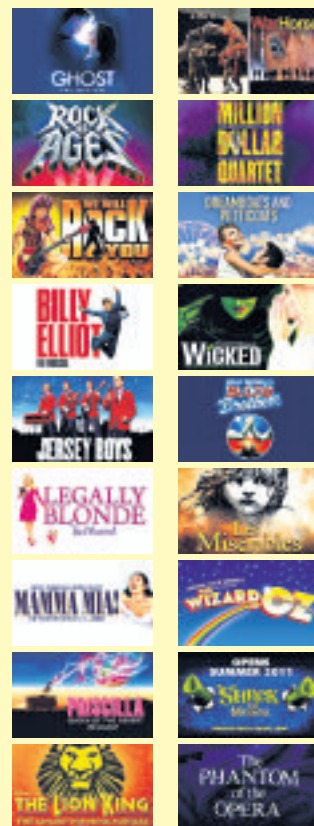
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Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing. For the Dine and Dance option see the matinee performance before heading back to the hotel for dinner and disco (conditions apply). For the Saturday Night option you will see the evening performance. For both breaks the price includes a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options). Pick ups are from Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

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The self-drive break is for one evening staying either on the Friday night or Saturday night in a four-star hotel. You will see the evening performance: for Friday night you will have a top price ticket and for Saturday evening there is a choice of price bands. Stay extra nights for a reasonable supplement (subject to availability).

\* The "from" price and price bands vary for each show - see brochure for details. Single room supplements apply.

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(Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm),

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(please include your name and address)

or go to

[www.expressandstar.com/starextratavel](http://www.expressandstar.com/starextratavel)

Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

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If an ad has an **envelope icon** next to it (as above) send your reply in an envelope (addressed to the advertisers Box number) Place this envelope in a further envelope addressed to *My Match, Classified Dept., Express & Star, Queen St, Wolverhampton WV1 3QL*. Include your name and address on the back of a cheque or Postal Order for £6 per reply (two replies for £10) Make cheques or postal orders to Express & Star. In your main letter, ensure you leave a contact number for the advertiser to reach you on.

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### women seeking men

**Guys Text n' Chat.** Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT207 To : 65125. Or call 0906 635 0510.

(T&C's below)

**HOLLY** 25, slim, attractive, brunette, likes gym, WLTm nice, sensitive male of similar age for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380851

**JANE** 46, single mum, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380591

**NATALIE** attractive brown eyed girl 31yrs, likes romance, cosy nights in, keeping fit, WLTm similar energetic man for fun meets 40's-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380869

**KERRY** friendly 34yr old slim size 10 sophisticated female who know what she wants in life, seeking similar confident male for mutual spilling and good times. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380863

**LYN** fun social lively lady not looking for anything too serious just someone fun, reliable and masculine. Age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380861

**ATTRACTIVE** 45yr old female, seeks genuine, attractive male, 38-48 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 388550

**LOUISA** looking for lovely, young male, 20-30's, easygoing for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380469

**CARLY** beautiful slim brunette looking for naughty mature male 50-70yrs for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376569

**SARAH** 38, slim, nice looking, tactile, no lies, WLTm kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378483

**HOME** alone with no one to call my own 31yr old naughty girl looking for fun. Can travel. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363277

**JANE** 40's, blonde blue eyed petite build, with ties, WLTm understanding tall, caring man for daytime meets. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375111

**VERY** attractive 18yr old fitness instructor looking to burn some extra calories with older experienced male who thinks he can keep up, 30-60. ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 364311

**MANDY** 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 360317

**JOY** very hot fun loving 35yr old American female over on regular business, looking for English gent for mutually convenient friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378507

**29YR** old large black female looking for much older male, up to 70yrs, for naughty friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370017

**DIVORCED** very lovely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTm similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370023

**KIRSTY** 36 attractive, blonde, seeking open-minded decent male for fun friendship, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370113

**PAULINE** attractive petite nurse, loves evenings in/out, looking for honest male to share loving friendship and good times. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379535

**SLIM** attractive lady with long auburn hair just wants to have a good time with likeminded older guy up to 75yrs. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368119

**I'M** attractive, very tactile with an hour-glass figure, looking for fun and good times. Can you help? Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368989

**SHARON** 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and WLTm male 45-65yrs for fun meets. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376565

**JENNY** blue eyed cuddly independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTm older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378481

**YOUNG** looking attractive slim blonde, very lovely, WLTm nice guy for whatever life throws at us. No expectations. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370111

**ANNA** 29yr old nurse, elft curvy auburn beauty, likes cosy nights in, genuinely seeking older, well built male to look after, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375139

**SUZANNA** lonely beautiful classy French lady looking for happy decent reliable man for lots of TLC and good times. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375711

**28YR** old tall good looking and single, just looking for a bit of fun with spontaneity, open minded man. You won't be disappointed. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375137

**CAROL** petite brunette, 38yrs, romantic, affectionate, outgoing, seeks similar male for nice times together. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 377513

**MAGGIE** young at heart 40's female, single, sincere and honest seeks romance with likeminded male to enjoy weekends away and more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379539

**LISA** 38 slim attractive blonde, looking for a man who will appreciate a feminine, fashionable, fun, romantic woman with a mind of her own. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379537

**LITTLE** bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363428

**40'S** LaLaLa, lovely curves, solvent but lonely, seeks nice older male to pamper, enjoy fun and affection with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358135

**SHARON** 29 single mum of two, loves to live life to the full and will try anything once, seeking reliable male for cosy nights in. Any age/status. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380385

**30YR** old attractive confident business woman, frequently in area seeks older gent for mutual spilling, pampering and fun. ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358137

**MIXED** race sassy lady, 38yrs, attractive and fun loving, looking for love and laughter without any strings, 30-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 372061

**FRAN** single confident brunette, OHAC, employed, loves cooking, cuddles, seeks Mr Christmas for mistletoe kisses and insinuating meets. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380387

**TRACY** attractive young blonde with great figure, likes nights in/out, looking for stimulating male for interesting meets. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380389

**HAVE** all the good ones gone? Here I am left on the shelf looking for fun, laughter, friendship and naughty liaisons! ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 372063

**DIONNE** 5ft 3ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, medium build, 42, single mum, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376801

**SLIM** 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 339373

**RACHEL** 38, slim, attractive, works full time, seeks sensitive, funny gent for friendship, companionship, hopefully relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375929

**PUSSEY** Galore seeking very own James Bond for romance. Janette 42yr, attractive, slim, leggy, cheeky extremely loving and single. ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375989

**CLARE** good looking, beautiful blonde, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378209

**FEMALE** looking for gent, 65-70, caring, loving and independent. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378295

**PATRICIA** 5ft 5ins, red hair, blue eyes, likes nights out, meals, clubs, seeking nice young man who is kind, generous to look after me. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378207

**DAWN** attractive, slim female, 45, N/S, no ties, WLTm tall, fit male with get up and go attitude towards life. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375825

**LOUISE** 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, GSOH, kind, caring, honest, genuine, loving, WLTm male, 43-55 with similar qualities for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376165

**JANICE** attractive female, 50, size 12-14, seeks younger gent, 40-50 for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376115

**MARIA** 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 329319

**KATHY** caring lady 60, medium build, smoker, seeks caring, smart male 55-65 for companionship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 374773

**MANDY** GSOH, like nights in/out, have all the good ones gone, here I am looking for fun, laughter, friendship, possible LTR with similar male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376149

**BIG** is beautiful Female looking for someone to share a life time of happiness with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368528

**ELAINE** kind, romantic, loving 43, seeks genuine male for relationship. Telford. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 374845

**JEAN** 71, fun loving Shropshire lady, seeks caring gent of similar age, GSOH, N/S for companionship/outings. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 373657

**SLIM** professional, attractive, amiable lady, 55, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH and enjoys the good things in life. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356411

**LINDA** 70's, likes theatre, dancing, seeks nice gent for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 355891

**ATTRACTIVE** female, 45, slim, affectionate, intelligent, seeks honest, caring male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 301001

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**FARMER'S** granddaughter, OHAC, stunningly attractive, respectable, sincere, WLTm countryman/bachelor, 48-62, 5ft 9ins plus, genuine, uncomplicated with GSOH and TLC. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 387204

**POLLY** dark hair, 50, attractive, outgoing, seeks special outgoing male for days out etc. Telford. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 371127

**KIND** romantic female, 50, seeking a male to talk, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368429

**OPTIMISTIC** Shropshire lass, slim, gorgeous, seeks good looking gent, 40-50 with GSOH. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 362033

**LOVING** caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 364651

**BLACK** attractive female, 34, slim, N/S, seeks genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 367021

**WIDOWED** lady 70's, likes countryside, travel, seasons, seeks nice gent to spend time with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 362993

**DIY** gardening, friendly geek required by friendly 55yr old attractive teacher, soulful lady to share sunny days and starlit nights in my hilltop cottage garden. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 365137

**BLONDE** tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 384852

**PROFESSIONAL** independent lady, 49, slim, blonde, attractive, varied interests, seeks intelligent, romantic, sincere, genuine male with GSOH for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359351

**CARING** and honest lady 61, 5ft 2ins, WLTm very caring and honest gentleman. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375985

**KIND** romantic, loving lady, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375751

**DO** you know what women want? 40yr old petite lady needs spoiling and lots of love by attractive male, 45-55. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 327573

**FEMALE** 51, slim, 5ft 4ins, genuine, caring, seeks suit for life is genuine and caring. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356761

**72YR** old widower, smart, likes travel, conversation, dancing, cooking, missing that special man in her life who is easygoing and N/S. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 349265

**SLIM** professional, attractive, amiable lady, 55, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH and enjoys the good things in life. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356411

**LINDA** 70's, likes theatre, dancing, seeks nice gent for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 355891

**ATTRACTIVE** female, 45, slim, affectionate, intelligent, seeks honest, caring male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 301001

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**SHAPELY** attractive, light skinned black female, 39, seeks attractive, fit, male, 30's, builder type, tanned, rugged for relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 231152

**SLIM** attractive 44yr old female, N/S, no ties, likes travel, nights out, seeks male, 40-50 for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 334191

**BLACK** female, medium build, mother of two, WLTm lively gent, 34-40, N/S with GSOH for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 148702

**WENDY** dark hair/eyes, medium build, seeks male for friendship and see what happens. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361589

**LADIES** Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT207 To : 65125. (T&C's below).

**BRIAN** 60 single male, WLTm local lady having similar needs, hopefully slim-medium build. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 366629

**GEORGE** lonely, retired businessman, 66, tall, own home, seeks slim female for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379593

**54YR** old divorced single dad, 5ft 8ins, N/S, medium build, car owner, GSOH, seeks female, 30-55. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379599

**MALE** 58, 5ft 8ins, medium build, short hair, GSOH, seeks female, 50-60 to share happiness and life with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370649

**PAUL** 59, likes countryside, animals, cooking, seeks female, 45-60 with similar interests for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381101

**JEFF** slim, fit, active, 60, open-minded, seeks attractive lady, 40-60 for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379997

**NIGIE** 44, 6ft 6ins, seeks lady, 18-40 for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381009

**MALE** 50, fit, friendly, down to earth, seeks female for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 372407

**ATTRACTIVE** tall, dark, professional male, GSOH, easygoing, likes sports, socialising, seeks female with GSOH for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380901

**33YR** old male, looking for nice lady for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380829

**ATTRACTIVE** tall, dark, professional male, 47, GSOH, enjoys sport, socialising, good company, seeks female with GSOH for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380897

**GENUINE** male, 54, own home, seeks female, any age for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368871

**ALAN** young 62, N/S, slim, solvent, successful, OHAC, WLTm sensitive, caring female, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380651

**FUNNY** unusual, caring, kind, unique me, snow on road, David, seeks female, 20-50. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375831

**DAVID** 54, seeks female, 18-50 for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370585

**JOHN** 58, slim, 5ft 9ins, seeks cuddly lady, size 14-16 for nights in/out, wine-ing/dining and nights away. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380281

**HANDSOME** attractive, fit, professional trucker, 38, WLTm attractive, honest, caring lady/mum, 31-45 for LTR. Colour unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 219790

**PAUL** attractive male, 52, seeks large female, 55-70 for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380089

**KEVIN** 44, divorced, 5ft 8ins, brown hair, blue eyes, medium build, easygoing, down to earth, likes meals out, cinema, seeks N/S female. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 377207

**MALE** 60, seeks female who needs a man for occasional evenings and weekend pleasure, any age/status. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379873

**NICE** guy late 30's, genuine, open-minded, likes wineing/dining, seeks likeminded lady for fun, friendship and companionship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 341135

**TALL** 30's guy, fun, cheeky, little extra padding, seeks open minded, slim, vivacious, curvy babe for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 339081

**GLAMOROUS** granny wanted, 60 plus by Steve, 54 for daytime fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370841

**41YR** old male, 6ft, dark hair, likes cosy nights in and good times out, seeks female to share good times with, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 369663

**PAUL** 35, seeks female, medium build, attractive for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 374601

**HAROLD** 70yr old male, divorced, lonely, solvent, OHAC, seeking female for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379759

**SINGLE** dad, 45, honest, caring, brown eyes, likes holidays, football, swimming, walks, seeking special female, any age and looks. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378219

**54YR** old divorced male, OHAC, seeks female under 50 for fun



## SPORT

## Red card Villa fight hard for well-deserved point

A SPIRITED display by the 10 men of Villa was more than enough to earn a share of the points

In a game where both teams were fully committed to the cause, Pelsall can think themselves unlucky to collect just a point.

Both teams started at a great tempo and with the first chance of the game debutant Simon Drakes' shot was saved well by Scott Furlong in the Copsewood goal. But the parry bounced off full back Ron Sekadde and nestled in the net – first blood to Pelsall.

## Appearing

Copsewood's first real chance came when Andy Hughes, under pressure, was unable to hold a cross. The ball fell to Gary Mead and from the edge of the box, he lobbed over scrambling Pelsall defenders and into the net.

On the half hour, Phil Gyle got his marching orders for foul and abusive language, but after defend-

PELSALL VILLA 2  
COVENTRY COPSEWOOD 2

ing the initial pressure Pelsall came close when Aaron Simpson failed to hit the target when well placed. Although down to 10 men, Pelsall had another good chance from a Ryan Williams free kick found Matt Hunt six yards out, but he failed to hit the target from a good position.

Pelsall started the second half well and produced a great passage of first-time football – Battison to Williams to Drake to Lewis, who committed the keeper, squared the ball to Green to finish from close range and make it 2-0.

But Ryan Cutting made the most of the holes appearing in the Villa defence to cut the deficit to 2-1.

Then Hughes saved smartly, but the ball fell fortuitously to Gordon, who scored from close range, and an entertaining game ended 2-2.

Pelsall entertain Castle Vale this Saturday, December 10.



Freestyler Al Johnson outside the Banks's Stadium

## You can call me Al, Saddlers freestyler

A FOOTBALL freestyler showed off his fancy footwork to help launch a new virtual sports academy in Walsall.

Al Johnson treated the crowd at The Saddlers' home clash with Bury to a display of neat tricks and fancy flicks.

The trickster, who grew up in Stockton-on-Tees but is a graduate of Walsall Adult & Community College, was on hand to entertain the fans before kick-off at the Banks's Stadium.

## Potential

Al finished third in the world freestyle championships in London in 2003.

The event was staged to help launch the new virtual sports academy at Walsall Adult & Community College.

The college has joined up with Walsall FC and other sports providers in the

borough to launch the academy for 16 to 18 year olds.

It will start in January 2012 and give young people in the town the chance to embark on a six-month vocational and practical course in a sports environment.

It will also see students spend one day of each week at the Saddlers' training complex alongside the club's coaching staff.

Mick Kearns, community director for Walsall FC's Community Programme said: "Walsall FC is fully aware of the difficulties faced by young people who are about to enter the world of work."

We're looking forward to giving them a helping hand to achieve their potential."

Call 01922 654510 for more details.

## Holdgate's hat-trick heroics as leaders fall

**CONTINENTAL STAR 3 BOLEHALL SWIFTS 2**  
THE unbeaten league run of league leaders Bolehall Swifts was brought to an end as Continental earned a hard-fought win at Dales Lane with a Daniel Holdgate hat-trick, writes Adam Duffy.

Holdgate gave Star the lead on 19 minutes, beating the Bolehall offside trap to slot the ball home from the edge of the area.

Darren McCarrick made a brilliant save on 23 minutes, finger tipping the ball round the post to deny Holyland whose powerful header was heading into the top right hand corner.

Continental doubled their lead on 27 minutes when full-back Dwayne Robinson played a superb ball over the top of the Bolehall defence to pick out Holdgate, who outpaced the defence to slot the ball into the bottom left hand corner of the net on 38 minutes.

Bolehall found a way back into the match when striker Simeon Smith turned in the area and smashed the ball home beating the diving McCarrick.

## Skillful

The second half became a very tight affair, with both teams cancelling each other out in a tactical battle, but on 90 minutes Holdgate completed his hat-trick superbly, slotting the ball home from the left hand angle of the area under the body of the diving Acton in the Bolehall goal.

That's 11 goals in five games for red hot striker Holdgate.

From the restart, Bolehall were awarded a penalty following a scramble in the area. Smith stepped up to take the spot kick which was excellently saved by McCarrick diving to his left to keep the ball out.

But Continental were slow to react to the rebound allowing Bolehall skipper Tom Starkey to tuck the ball home to make it 3-2.

It was a good, entertaining display by two well drilled, skillful teams, and the victory moved Continental Star up to second in the table, four points behind Bolehall Swifts – with a game in hand.

## Bottom team Willenhall's late revenge

## WILLENHALL 3 CAUSEWAY UTD 2

THE league's bottom team gained revenge for a September spanking at the hands of Causeway United with a 94th minute winner.

The returning Mitch Fellows looked like he had won a penalty after only 80 seconds, but the first of a long line of decisions went against the home side and the appeals were waved away.

The visitors were ahead on 11 minutes in this Midland Alliance clash when the prolific Aaron Lloyd was on hand to net from close range.

Adam Swain then cleared off the line to keep it to one goal and the importance of this was highlighted on 25 minutes when Leon Weller and Jan Trapzso combined to put in Mitch Fellows and he strode on to net despite a half-block by a defender.

The equaliser clearly buoyed Willenhall and Dean Hunnage was just off target on 50 minutes as his 30-yarder flew just over.

Fellows then fizzed a cross-shot across the face of goal soon after as they pressed for the lead.

## Defended

Liam Flynn made two routine saves before Causeway went close. The keeper was called into action again when he saved from Craig Gregg as the home side defended bravely.

However, they were undone by a refereeing decision in the 78th after a challenge from Tom Clews. Lloyd accepted the 12-yard gift and the visitors looked to have sealed the points.

However, the Lockmen refused to lie down and they levelled with four minutes remaining.

Weller played a superb through-ball for Trapzso to run on to and he finished superbly through the visiting keeper's legs.

The home side's victory was sealed four minutes into stoppage time as 16-year-old sub Danico Johnson burst down the right, cut inside a defender, ran in the box then squared it for Reece Leek.

He netted the winner from a couple of yards out for Willenhall's first three points since the end of August – more than three months ago.

They remain bottom, however, with eight points from 20 games.

## Great Scott opener is cancelled out in draw

WALSALL WOOD paid the price for missing chances as they had to settle for a share of the spoils, writes Bill Shaw.

Wood were ahead in this Midland Combination Premier clash on 20 minutes after good build-up work from Ian Purvey and Taylor-Boyce won a free-kick on the edge of the area. Scott Cooper put the ball down and nonchalantly chipped it into the top right-hand corner.

Then, on 28 minutes, Nathan Thompson cut in from wide on the right and his low drive was comfortably saved by Adam Braddock.

From Braddock's kick, Taylor-Boyce raced in on goal but keeper Ian Freeman was out bravely to save.

The first chance of the second half came on 52 minutes, Taylor-Boyce was first to a loose ball but flashed a low drive wide. On 63 minutes, Sean Wallis fed Purvey wide left, he got to the byline but his low cross was just in front of Taylor-Boyce.

## Superb

A minute, later a mistake in midfield led in substitute Umar Zaman who raced for goal, but was stopped by a superb Steven Taundry tackle.

On 72 minutes, Purvey raced through the defence from half-way but shot straight at the advancing keeper.

Three minutes later he cut in from the right and set up Bandurak on the penalty spot but keeper Freeman was in the right place to save.

However, Wood were pegged back on 80 minutes when Ricky Williams went on a rampaging run down the right, before his low cross was cut out by Torgun Bilgimer.

The home side were unable to clear the resultant corner and Zaman pounced to force the ball home.

Wood entertain Southam United at Oak Park on Saturday.

## Six of the best by table toppers

## BLOXWICH 3RD XI 6

## WOLVERHAMPTON &amp; TETENHALL 4TH XI 0

ON A crisp morning Bloxwich 3rds welcomed WATS 4ths for their last home game of the year.

Bloxwich were quick to push forward and had lots of early possession.

Positive play soon saw Kate Green-sill deliver a swift ball in from the right that Kate Gardner was happy to nudge into the WATS net.

Bloxwich continued to control the game and Kate Gardner picked up a 2nd goal.

Sharon Hill and Nicky Lockley were on fine form with some intricate dribbling and clean passing on display. Sharon Hill grabbed a goal and Kate Gardner got her hat trick just on half time.

WATS were quick to break at times and their two front players caused some difficulties for the Bloxwich defence, but calm confident defending saw off the WATS attacks.

An injury meant Bloxwich played majority of the second half with 10 players.

Nicky Lockley was rewarded with a goal and Kate Gardner finished the match off with her fourth and sixth for the team.

Bloxwich 3rds consolidated their position at the top of the table with 24 points from nine games.

## WHITCHURCH 12 WALSALL 23

IT WAS in the last century when Walsall last won a match at Edgeley Road, writes Arnie Evans. That victory in 1998 was a rather more comfortable affair than last Saturday's encounter.

It would seem that the strong wind would tend to dictate the pattern of the match. But, to their credit, both teams tried to run and pass the ball rather than use the kick and chase tactics.

The visitors dominated the game for long periods, but the resolute home defence proved to be hard to breach. The constant pressure did force the hosts to concede penalties at the breakdown. This gave Matt Wood the opportunity to step up on two occasions in the first quarter to give his team a 6-0 lead.

Walsall were producing some good phases of play with Dickson, Halbert, Merlin and Fitzgerald making good ground on several occasions. [size]This type of play helped to create Walsall's first try after half an hour. The forwards

produced a series of powerful drives before flanker Jamie Hickman crashed through three would be tacklers to score wide out. The best try of the game came just before half time as forwards and backs combined together well, covering over fifty metres before the ball was moved wide. Wood, Pette, Mould and Naylor produced some crisp passing to give right winger Alex Greenslade the space to run in a try near the left corner flag.

Virtually from the restart the hosts had their first score as the Walsall defence failed to contain their opponents support play resulting in a try for Andy Oakdean.

The second half saw Walsall gain even more superiority with virtually most of the game being played in the Whitchurch half of the field. But the Delves Road team were guilty of some poor decision making. A lack of support at the breakdown resulted in some very slow ball and even when the ball was moved, there was a tendency to hang on to it rather than pass it.

## Nearest

The hosts, in contrast, produced a super counter attack which covered over 70 metres before centre Henry Hockenbuhl touched down near the posts. Dan Matthews put over the conversion to make it 12-16.

There was now a concern amongst the visiting supporters that their team could lose a game which they had dominated throughout

But prop forward Pete Fitzgerald eased Walsall's fears with just ten minutes left. The team linked together well and after several good short burst, scrum half Lloyd fed Fitzgerald who broke through on 20 metres.

Wood's converted, and despite further attacks Walsall failed to get a bonus point try.

This win keeps Walsall pushing for a top three league position. But they will have a severe test this Saturday when second placed Bournville visit

## BARTLEY GREEN 1 BLOXWICH UNITED 2

BLOXWICH'S best chance of a scoreless first half arrived in the 20th minute when Lewis Perry sent Mark Wooldridge racing clear down the right and he squared the ball to Aidrian Jones eight yards out, writes Mark Perry.

His shot was somehow cleared off the line by a defender.

Patience was rewarded in the 52nd minute when Aidrian Jones's pinpoint cross from the left was turned into the net by Lewis Perry from 12 yards out.

With the home side still reeling, Mark Wooldridge saw an effort from



Jamie Hickman plunges over for Walsall's first try last Saturday despite the combined efforts of the Whitchurch defence

Delves Road. Walsall have won all of their home games this season and will be keen to overcome the high flying Birmingham outfit.

Their last home defeat was in early April last year, when they lost 23-25 to Bournville!

**WALSALL UNITED 20 OLD HALES 12**  
Walsall United consolidated their position at the top of the 2nd team league after victory over their nearest rivals, Old Halesonians.

They were scored by Dan Simpson, Rafa Ingelmo and Andy Field.

The 3rd XV lost on Saturday to Wolverhampton 2nds 13-12. Walsall outscored their opponents by two tries to one through Kevin Foster and Phil Stanley.

## BIRMINGHAM BARBARIANS U-17 3 WALSALL U-17 51

Walsall started lowly, allowing the Barbarians to press, and use the weight advantage of the pack, but they came up against a resolute Walsall defence and after some scrappy play the ball was passed out along the

Walsall back line for a break that led to Connor McGuirk opening the scoring.

This set the pattern and further tries were scored by Rhys Barry, Laured Kilari and Danny Poole, with two conversions by Robert Angell for a 29-0 lead at half time.

Danny Poole got his second try early in the second half before the Barbarians put over a penalty for their only score.

Walsall, in contrast, decided to take a quick penalty which resulted in a try after a fine solo effort by Jonathan Duckett. Connor McGuirk and Connah Simms scored the next two.

The match finished early as Walsall had topped 50 points.

Walsall under 15s lost 36-12 in a friendly against Lichfield. Unfortunately Walsall were without some key players, and despite some excellent defending were unable to contain their opponents.

Walsall try scorers were Josh Townrow and Jonathan Fellows, with Stephen Walker converting one.

## Double victory delight for Bloxwich

outside the box came back off the post and Bloxwich added a second in the 62nd minute when Richard Joyce's speculative 25 yard shot was tipped onto the bar. Aidrian Jones was first to react and prod in the rebound from six yards.

Josh Jones missed a golden opportunity to add a third for Bloxwich in the 70th minute when he raced on to a ball over the top from Wooldridge and rounded the keeper, only to hit the post.

The home side pushed hard and pulled back a consolation goal in the 88th minute when sloppy defending

from Bloxwich saw a cross from the right turned in at the near post.

## BLOXWICH UNITED 2 BROCTON 1

BLOXWICH took all three points as they came from behind to beat Brocton in midweek.

Fife slotted home for the visitors in the 29th minute, but Ashley Bellingham equalised in the 37th minute when he crashed home a loose ball following a corner.

The game looked to be heading for a draw until, in injury time, Lewis Perry found space on the edge of the 18 yard area and drilled home the winner for the home side.



# sport

## Battling Bloxwich sparkle as leaders are held

BLOXWICH'S hockey first team hosted top of the league Market Drayton in what Bloxwich knew was going to be a tough game, writes Edward Marrocco.

The home side were full of confidence after winning their last three games and started the game well, pressing high up the

**BLOXWICH 1ST XI 2  
MARKET DRAYTON 2**

field and passing the ball well. Throughout the first half Bloxwich had most of the ball and with them pressing high Market Drayton were making mistakes.

Bloxwich took the lead

through a short corner which Drayton failed to clear and was clinically finished by Matt Baldwin.

Bloxwich started the second half the same as the first, pressing well, but Market Drayton looked dangerous on the counter and scored from two short corners. The hosts did not let this

faze them and were rewarded after some good work from John Morris set up Matt Baldwin for his second and to bring the game level.

The game finished 2-2 which at the start of the day would have been a good result, but Bloxwich came off the pitch feeling like they had been the better team.

# DAGGER BLOW AS WALSALL FIGHT ON

**B**OSS Dean Smith dismissed Walsall's FA Cup stumble and insisted the Saddlers can finish the job after they were held at Dagenham & Redbridge. The Saddlers drew 1-1 at Victoria Road on Saturday and must go again next Tuesday for the right to host Championship strugglers Millwall in the third round. Dagenham had lost eight on the bounce to sit second-bottom of League Two, and Claude Gnaka's first Walsall goal put them behind until Jon Nurse's fine equaliser forced a replay – and Smith insisted staying in the hat was vital.

He said: "It was disappointing not to win the game because we took the lead, but Dagenham's a tough place to go. We've not been in sparklingly form ourselves and we're still in the draw, which is the main thing. We're looking hard to beat and we proved it on Saturday.

"We should have gone on and won the game – especially being as comfortable as we were – but it was a fantastic goal from Dagenham. We knew John Still's team were a tough side, but we'll go again at the Banks's."

The Saddlers have drawn four straight away games and are three unbeaten in all competitions, but Smith bemoaned their Cup luck.

"It was a great last-minute goal by Exeter (a 1-1 first-round draw), but we beat them at home and now Dagenham have scored a fantastic goal. Two great goals have got both teams a draw," he added.

Substitute Ryan Jarvis was sent off in injury time – just six minutes after coming on – when he caught former Norwich team-mate Michael Spillane in the face.

Smith conceded that the striker hit the defender, but insisted there was no malice.

He said: "I got a few different reports and the assistant referee told us it was a fist in the face. I've seen it and his arm was up when he made the challenge so there was contact – but it was not a fist."



**DAGENHAM.....1  
WALSALL.....1**

The romance of the FA Cup was lost in a small corner of east London as Walsall discovered its reality.

If ever the Saddlers needed a reminder of what awaits them in League Two, should they lose their latest relegation fight, this was it. Saturday gave them a lesson in what they must avoid after this chastening experience at Victoria Road.

Manager Smith was typically positive and refused to criticise, despite his men being second-best to a team 91st in the Football League.

Four consecutive away draws highlight Saddlers' resilience, but they have secured just two wins in 18 games in all competitions.

On Saturday, even a modicum of quality would have ended the cup contest.

It was all a bit turgid, Walsall putting their bodies on the line and substituting finesse for grit and determination. They were shell-shocked by the Daggers' up-and-at-'em start, and often survived on the hosts' failings rather than their own fortune.

Ultimately, the team must find rediscover their freedom after being shackled by a run which has derailed the season. Momentum can take them in a different direction and a win over league leaders Charlton at the Banks's on Saturday would leave them buoyant ahead of the six pointer with rock bottom Chesterfield.

### Eroding

Walsall don't deserve to be written off, and they came close to a win, but were left to nurse their wounds thanks to Jon Nurse's superb 25-yard strike – which owed much to Lee Beevers being tricked too easily.

Claude Gnaka's towering header looked to have given the Saddlers safe passage after Daggers were the better side for much of the first half.

They bossed a timid Walsall who had Jimmy Walker to thank for twice saving from Brian Woodall and whose best chance was squandered by Alex Nicholls.

The visitors improved after the break – which owed much to Dagenham's eroding confidence – and Jon Macken should have done better than to blast over from 10 yards.

It cannot be easy playing for Walsall at the moment. Despite the positive noises, there must be a hefty dose of frustration at the lack of victories.

The cup replay is at the Banks's Stadium on December 13 (7.45pm) with tickets £12 (adults) and £6 (concessions).

**Dagenham & Redbridge:** Shea, Rose, Doe, Spillane, Ilesanmi, Scannell (Tomlin, 82), Ogogo, Gain, Nurse; Scott, Woodall (Walsh, 85).

**Walsall:** Walker, Beevers, Smith, Lancashire, Sadler, Nicholls, Taundry, Chambers, Halliday (Gnaka 60), Macken (Jarvis 85), Grigg (Bowerman 87).

Referee: Mr D Deadman (Cambs).  
Attendance: 1,237.



Claude Gnaka (right) is congratulated on his first goal for the Saddlers



Ryan Jarvis is sent off in stoppage time



Andy Halliday, on loan from Middlesbrough



Dismay for Jimmy Walker and the Walsall defence as the equaliser nestles in the net

## Triumph in adversity for battling Olympic

**BURSCOUGH 2-4 RUSHALL OLYMPIC**

TEN-MAN Rushall Olympic battled back against adversity as they twice came from behind to complete the double against lowly Burscough in the Evo-Stik Northern Premier, writes Darren Stockall.

In the opening minute a great centre from Jonny Haynes was met by a towering header from Lucan Spittle but home keeper Connor Roberts produced a superb save.

On seven minutes the visitors were forced to make an early change as Mitchell Tolley limped off and was replaced by Sean Platt.

The Linnets took an 18th-minute lead when a through ball picked out the run of Paul Williams and his deflected shot beat Chris Gemmell.

The visitors faced an uphill task after Luke Bottomer fouled Phil Quirk, kicked out at his opponent and earned a red card after 27 minutes.

Things went from bad to worse for Pics as Marco Adaggio was carried off with a knee injury.

But in the third minute of injury time Rushall were back on level terms as sub Louis Keenan unleashed an unstoppable first time strike from the edge of the box that rattled in off the underside of the crossbar.

### Referee

In the 49th minute Gemmell produced a superb block to keep out a free-kick but the rebound was knocked forward to Quirk who, despite appearing to offside, poked home from close range.

Rushall sub Keenan was then forced off with an injury and Alan Wilkes entered the fray.

Pics restored parity for the second time in the 64th minute when the run of Matt Lewis into the left face of the box was ended by a defensive barge and Platt sent the keeper the wrong way from the resulting spot-kick.

On 72 minutes depleted Pics forged into the lead for the first time when Platt floated in a great free-kick from the right flank that was met by the head of Haynes who directed a fine finish over the home keeper.

Fifteen minutes from time Wilkes picked up possession 30 yards out and unleashed a drive that crashed into the left side of goal for 2-4.

An eventful game was capped off with two minutes left when limping referee Barry Cropp had to go off.

## Tigers' final flourish

**CRESSWELL TIGERS U-9 3  
CRESSWELL WANDERERS U-9 0**

THIS end of season friendly derby saw the Tigers easily victorious. Two goals in the first two minutes from Jack Humphries set them on their way. A further well worked goal from a corner by Man of the Match Jake Percival completed the scoring.

A fine display by the Tigers defence restricted Wanderers to only a few off target shots.

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Frontman Jon Macken powers in a header

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